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TASS ANNOUNCES NUCLEAR TEST AT SEMIPALATINSK

LD170208 Moscow TASS in English 0206 GMT 17 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow July 17 TASS -- The Soviet Union detonated an underground nuclear explosion within the range of 20 to 150 kilotons at the Semipalatinsk test site today at 5:20 a.m. Moscow time [0120 GMT].

The test was carried out with a view to upgrading military technology.

U.S. 'OBSTACLES' DISTORT USSR STAND AT GENEVA TALKS

LD162226 Moscow TASS in English 2058 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow July 16 TASS -- Follows commentary by Vladimir Bogachev, TASS military journalist:

The U.S. side at the Geneva talks is grossly departing from the accords on medium- and shorter-range missiles, on which understanding was reached earlier, thus piling up new obstacles in the way towards reaching agreement, and, in doing so, crudely distorting the Soviet Union's stand.

Despite the absolutely unequivocal public statements by the Soviet officials, Charles Redman, a spokesman for the U.S. State Department, claimed at a briefing in Washington that the USSR was raising in Geneva the question of the elimination of the West German Pershing-1A missiles. Meanwhile, the Soviet Union has never raised and does not raise the question about these West German missiles.

After starting a discussion of the question of the shorter-range missiles, the USSR and the USA have reached agreement on a bilateral scrapping of the corresponding Soviet and American delivery vehicles and nuclear ammunition to them. Now Washington demands a unilateral scrapping of only the Soviet weapons of that class, insisting, without any sound reason, on its right to preserve the U.S. nuclear ammunition to the West German missiles.

Aiming to put up new obstacles in the way of reaching agreement, the U.S. delegation at Geneva is also trying to revise the Reykjavik accords regarding the 100 nuclear warheads on medium-range missiles of both sides outside the European zone.

Of a clearly obstructionist character are also the proposals of the USA that the process of elimination of medium-range missiles be started with unilateral cuts only in the Soviet medium-range missiles. Over the past six months, Washington has refused to observe the agreements as soon as they became an obstacle to a practical fulfillment of the Pentagon's military programmes. Is there any guarantee that after a unilateral scrapping of the Soviet medium-range missiles Washington will not torpedo the whole agreement on medium-range missiles? Of a clearly unequal character are also the American proposals on excluding the U.S. military bases on the territory of third countries, which may be connected with medium-range missiles, from the zone of verification of observance of the agreement.

At last, the USA does not wish in general to eliminate its missiles and insists on the "right" to refit "Pershing-2" into "Pershing-1B" missiles and land-based cruise missiles into sea-based ones.

The real aims of each of the sides at the Geneva talks can also be seen from their practical actions in the military field. While the Soviet Union not only strictly observes the moratorium on the deployment of its medium-range missiles, but has also unilaterally considerably reduced their number, work is continuing in the U.S. military bases in preparation for the reception of 64 U.S. cruise missiles so as to bring them up to a state of "operational preparedeness" by the end of 1988.

KASHLEV IDENTIFIES 'SHORTCOMINGS' IN NATO DOCUMENT

PM160932 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Jul 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "At the Vienna Meeting"]

[Text] Vienna, 14 Jul -- At today's plenary session of the all-European meeting in the Austrian capital, the delegations of the Warsaw Pact states assessed the NATO countries' proposal on military aspects of security in Europe.

While noting that the submission of this document, albeit very late, can be assessed positively, Ambassador Yu.B. Kashlev, leader of the USSR delegation, stressed that it does not contain an adequate response to the proposals put forward earlier by the socialist countries.

The NATO document has a whole series of substantial shortcomings. The first and foremost shortcoming is the desire to remove disarmament questions from the agenda for the next stage of the Conference on Confidence and Security Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe and to exclude the neutral and nonaligned countries from equal participation in examining and resolving the problem of European disarmament from the Atlantic to the Urals. There is clear evidence in the document of attempts to avoid a real reduction in armed forces and armaments in Europe and to prevent the examination of the question of tactical nuclear weapons at future talks.

The heads of the Hungarian, GDR, and CSSR delegations, who also spoke, stated that the NATO countries should demonstrate their readiness not in words, but in deeds to promote elaboration of mutually acceptable accords.

PYADYSHEV ADDRESSES SEVERAL ISSUES AT BRIEFING

Delegation in Israel

PM161641 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Jul 87 First Edition P 5

[Telephone interview with B.V. Pyadyshev, first deputy chief of USSR Foreign Ministry Information Directorate, conducted by unnamed PRAVDA correspondent: "Foreign Ministry on the Line; Questions to the Point"]

[Text] A PRAVDA correspondent telephoned B.D. Pyadyshev, first deputy chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry Information Directorate, by telephone and asked him to answer some questions concerning current international policy.

[Correspondent] News agencies have reported on a visit to Israel by a group of consular workers of the USSR Foreign Ministry. Can you please comment on these reports?

[Pyadyshev] A group of eight USSR Foreign Ministry consular workers has indeed arrived in Israel. The group's task includes [v zadachu gruppy vkhodit] resolving questions of a consular nature connected with the stay of Soviet citizens in Israel, and also the on-site study of the conditon of Soviet immovable property in Israel and the regularization of the legal status of this property. The group has no other tasks. Of course it is not a question of establishing official diplomatic or consular relations between the USSR and Israel. This is possible only within the channel of the process of a Near East settlement. We do not see any basis for applying the principles of reciprocity in the organization of a trip to Moscow by an Israeli group. As is known, Israel has no immovable property in the Soviet Union and there are no citizens of Israel permanently resident in the USSR.

[Correspondent] The Foreign Ministry regularly holds briefings for foreign correspondents accredited in Moscow. What particularly interests our colleagues just now?

[Pyadyshev] Many questions are being asked. Journalists are, in particular, showing interest in the situation in Afghanistan and in the functioning of the program of national reconciliation.

In connection with a journalist's question about the intensification of the United States' activity in Turkey, anxiety was voiced at the fact that on the land of our southern neighbor, military preparations are being stepped up and the U.S. and NATO military presence is being expanded. One would like to hope that the Turkish leadership will take a fresh look at this situation paying due regard to the seriousness of the consequences of the country's being drawn into NATO's militarist preparations.

Finally, the interest of correspondents has been attracted by the news about the conference of foreign ministers of the union republics held in Moscow at which E.A. Shevardnadze spoke. Both the doyen of the republican ministries -- A.K. Gren, the Estonian foreign minister -- and also A.A. Mkrtchan who was appointed Armenian foreign minister only 7 months ago, just like their other colleagues, noted that the process of restructuring in the Soviet Union is opening new horizons for the republics' diplomacy.

'Tangible Results' in DRA

LD161531 Moscow TASS in English 1519 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow July 16 TASS -- The Soviet Union is welcoming the program for national reconciliation drawn up by the DRA Government and is noting with satisfaction that it yields tangible results, said Boris Pyadyshev, first deputy head of the Information Directorate of the USSR Foreign Ministry. He was addressing a briefing for Soviet and foreign newsmen at the press centre of the USSR Foreign Ministry today.

The Soviet Union consistently supports the policy of national reconciliation in the DRA and is prepared to withdraw from that country the limited military contingent of Soviet troops after an agreement is reached on putting an end to interference from the outside in Afghanistan's home affairs. It is for the United States to answer the question when it will be possible to withdraw the Soviet troops, the spokesman for the USSR Foreign Ministry said.

Sixth months have passed since the Afghan Armed Forces unilaterally ceased fire, thus creating practical conditions for pursuing the policy of national reconciliation in Afghanistan, Boris Pyadyshev said, answering the question of a correspondent.

Deplorably, counter-revolution took advantage of the ceasefire by the Afghan forces and the Soviet troops in order to increase military pressure to bear on the DRA. This has found its expression in an intensification over the past half a year in a number of areas of that country of hostilities by the counter-revolutionaries relying for support on the United States.

The U.S. Administration has increased arms supplies to the Afghan counter-revolutionaries, chiefly designed to combat aircraft and helicopters. The sophisticated weapons, Boris Pyadyshev said now in the hands of the counter-revolutionaries, have left their impact on the course of their military actions. These weapons, which are now in the hands of counter-revolutionaries, certainly, resulted in additional losses in Afghan and Soviet Air Force. Yet corresponding measures are being taken to neutralize that situation.

The fact that the Washington administration is trying to hamper political settlement in Afghanistan and is increasing the flow of its arms to the Afghan counter-revolutionaries is evidence that the U.S. policy creates an impasse in the situation in Afghanistan. Meanwhile, there can be no military settlement there. The Afghan situation cannot be settled by force of arms. This way it can be only protracted and involve new difficulties and calamities for the Afghan people.

U.S. 'Dangerous' Gulf Policy

LD161313 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1244 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow, 16 Jul (TASS) -- The heated situation in the Persian Gulf is not cooling down, Boris Pyadyshev, first deputy head of the Information Department at the USSR Foreign Ministry, stated at a briefing today for Soviet and foreign journalists in the USSR Foreign Ministry press center.

On the one hand, the United States acted fairly usefully at the UN Security Council in the working out of a draft resolution on the Iran-Iraq conflict. If this draft resolution is approved, the measures envisaged by it could help to achieve a cease-fire. However, on the other hand, this positive feature could be deprived of meaning if the growth of U.S. military activity in this region continues to take place.

Washington is sending its warships and large formations of Marines into the Persian Gulf and is making threats to inflict a blow on Iran. The U.S. armada in this area is playing the role of a dangerous irritant and might one day become the detonator for an explosion. The U.S. policy is dangerous, risky, and predictable, Boris Pyadyshev stressed.

It is regrettable that the United States is still ignoring the proposals of the Soviet Government to eliminate the fundamental causes of tension in the Persian Gulf. The withdrawal from the Gulf of the warships of states which do not belong in this region, and the adoption by the UN Security Council of effective measures aimed at the earliest possible end to the Iran-Iraq conflict -- this is what the Soviet Government is proposing -- are a realistic way of settling the Iran-Iraq conflict and the situation in the Persian Gulf.

U.S. Presence in Turkey

LD161400 Moscow TASS in English 1333 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow July 16 TASS -- The Soviet Union is concerned over the growth of U.S. military activity in Turkey's territory. This was stated at a briefing here today by Boris Pyadyshev, spokesman of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

He pointed out that the U.S. military presence in that country till 1990 had been legally recorded and expanded recently in a so-called 'agreement on economic and defense cooperation'. The U.S. was given the right to further use some 60 military facilities, including big Air Force bases, nuclear arms depots and radio surveillance centres located close to the southern borders of the USSR. Many Turkish airfields are being modernized, including those situated in the area of the Soviet-Turkish border.

The analysis of facts shows that the Turkish leadership is promoting itself a further drawing of Turkey into NATO's military preparations, Pyadyshev continued.

These activities are especially out of place and risky today, when an overall task of bringing down confrontation between the blocs, curbing the arms race and chanelling the resources to the needs of development and, finally, ensuring the survival of humanity is as acute as ever.

Criticizes Japan's SDI Contract

AU161316 Paris AFP in English 1310 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow, July 16 (AFP) -- The Soviet Foreign Ministry Thursday said that Japan would be responsible for spreading the arms race into outer space by signing an agreement on Japanese participation in the U.S. Strategic Defence Initiative.

A ministry statement, read at a news conference by Deputy Foreign Ministry spokesman Boris Pyadyshev, repeated Soviet opposition to the SDI contract to be signed shortly between Japan and Washington on participation in the multi-billion dollar project for a space-based anti-missile shield.

Japan must "take upon itself responsibility for the spread of the arms race into space," the statement said.

Noting that Tokyo had not heeded an earlier warning from the Foreign Ministry against following the "militaristic" path of the United States, the statement said it was completely wrong to suggest that Japan would gain any technological advantage from the programme.

"The whole of history since the Second World War shows that scientific knowledge advances more rapidly if such developments are not connected with military aims," it said.

SDI: Japan's 'Pretext'

OW170447 Tokyo KYODO in English 0428 GMT 17 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow, July 17 KYODO -- The Soviet Foreign Ministry Thursday attacked Japan's decision to participate in the research phase of the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI).

Ministry spokesman Boris Pyadyshev told reporters Japan must bear a large responsibility for spreading the arms race in outer space through a Japan-U.S. agreement allowing Japanese firms to participate in the space-based missile defense program, known as "Star Wars."

He said the Soviet Union last September condemned Japan's readiness to participate in the program.

It is regretful that the Japanese Government is so eager to ingratiate itself with Washington by preparing to participate in the program, instead of heeding calls for caution, the spokesman said.

He said SDI is a pretext for Japan to obtain technological benefits by participating in the program.

Japan's postwar history shows that Japan's scientific potential is more effective and more economically beneficial when unrelated to military aims, Pyadyshev added.

Discusses Honecker's FRG Visit

LD162152 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1645 GMT 16 Jul 87

[From the "International Diary" program, presented by Viktor Levin]

[Excerpt] AFP reports from Bonn about the forthcoming visit of Comrade Honecker to Bonn. It is reported that the talks between the leaders of the two German states could have taken place much earlier. However, this did not happen. In the first place, this came in the context of the deployment [razmeshcheniye] in the FRG of U.S. Star Wars program.

Well, one must suppose that the problems of disarmament will take a central position in the course of the forthcoming visit.

I would like to point out that the foreign policy activities of the fraternal socialist countries, which aims at the elimination of the nuclear threat, at a reduction of military confrontation, and at the improvement of international affairs as a whole, has become noticeably more active. [passage omitted]

Expectations of FRG Visit

LD162303 Hamburg DPA in German 1259 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow (DPA) -- The Soviet Union expects from the visit to the Federal Republic by GDR State Council chairman Erich Honecker a "further development of the interstate relations" between East Berlin and Bonn. This was stated to journalists in Moscow today by Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Boris Pyadyshev. The Soviet Union was also expecting the trip to result in an improvement in European cooperation.

GDR party and state leader Erich Honecker is to visit the Federal Republic from 7 to the 11 September.

"We assume that this visit, like any other, will contribute to strengthening European security, to military detente, to increasing of contacts, and to mutually advantageous cooperation on the European Continent," Pyadyshev stressed.

Honecker's visit to the Federal Republic was not discussed last week during Federal President Richard von Weizsaecker's visit to the USSR, he said. This was also superfluous, because the Federal Republic and the GDR were two sovereign states that did not need mediation.

Protests Journalist's Arrest

AU161423 Paris AFP in English 1414 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow, July 16 (AFP) -- The Soviet Union has lodged a protest with the Japanese Embassy here and the Japanese Foreign Ministry in Tokyo over the arrest of a Soviet journalist based in Japan, a foreign ministry official said here Thursday.

Deputy Foreign Ministry spokesman Boris Pyadyshev told a news conference that the Tokyo correspondent of the government newspaper Izvestiya had been arrested last Sunday by police in Tokyo, who used force against him without apparent justification.

Mr. Pyadyshev said that full details of the case were not yet known, but that the correspondent, Sergey Agafonov, had been released from police custody Wednesday and would return to the Soviet Union Friday.

A Japan Embassy spokesman told AFP that according to Japanese newspapers, Mr. Agafonov had been found drunk late at night in the kitchens of a French restaurant in central Tokyo. The press reports said that he had resisted arrest and assaulted one of the three police officers who were called to the scene by the restaurant employees.

SOVIET DELEGATION ATTENDS SEVENTH UNCTAD SESSION

Ryzhkov Greets Session

LD091100 Moscow TASS in English 1026 GMT 9 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow July 9 TASS -- A message of greetings by Nikolay Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, to participants in the 7th session of the U.N. Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) was circulated here. It says as follows:

I cordially greet participants in the 7th session of the U.N. Conference on Trade and Development.

The conference has proved during the years of its activities that it is a prestigious international forum examining vitally important issues of world economic relations. The Soviet Union highly appraises the activities of UNCTAD which promotes world development and trade, reorganization of international economic relations on a just and democratic basis and establishment of a new international economic order.

In our opinion, work conducted within UNCTAD is assuming special topicality now that the deterioration of the international economic climate is registered in the world. Unequal trade relations are still in force, economic ties are extensively used as a tool of political pressure, protectionism is on the rise and trade and currency contradictions are aggravating. Foreign indebtedness which has assumed a world-wide character and has a clear-cut political edge, has become the most urgent problem, especially for the developing countries.

The need is evident for tackling economic problems facing mankind. It is impossible anymore to mark time, to conduct endless discussions, dodging constructive and realistic decisions.

The new mode of political thinking, for which we call the world and which is based, in part, on growing interdependence of states and priority of general human values, should ensure a broad and perspective approach to international economic relations. [sentence as received] The plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union held late last June pointed out that the reorganization of the Soviet economy would contribute to developing broad international cooperation and, thus, to improving international economic relations.

We are sure that practical moves towards reduction in armaments and towards disarmament, which would release huge additional resources for the purpose of development, would be an important factor for social and economic development of all states. UNCTAD is able to make its contribution to drafting principles of the use of the funds, to be released as a result of cutting military budgets, for the good of the international community, including the developing countries.

Remaining the most universal international economic forum both by the composition of its members and by the range of issues under its consideration, UNCTAD could also play an active role in examining questions on drafting a concept of international economic security, which is called upon to contribute to working out joint approaches to the solution of world economic issues.

I wish participants in the conference many a success in their deliberations in the interests of economic and social progress of all nations.

N. Ryzhkov,

Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR

Aristov on Joining Fund

AU131231 Paris AFP in English 1216 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Text] Geneva, July 13 (AFP) -- Soviet Foreign Trade Minister Boris I. Aristov Monday announced that the Soviet Union will join a Common Fund designed to help stabilize the earnings of commodity-exporting developing countries.

He announced the move to the seventh session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD-7), as its general debate resumed at the Palace of Nations here.

An 1980 UNCTAD agreement called for the establishment of a Common Fund with a capital of 470 million dollars to finance International Commodity Agreements (ICAs) aimed at stabilizing world market prices and the earnings of countries depending on commodity exports.

Following the recent collapse of commodity prices, developing countries have stepped up pressure for the activation of the accord, which has been signed and ratified by most industrial countries.

The U.S. Administration, which was expected to provide about 15 per cent of the capital, has served notice however that it will not ratify it.

Mr. Aristov told a plenary session that "the Soviet leadership carefully considered" appeals from the Nonaligned Movement and the 127 developing countries of the Group of 77 (G77) for countries that had not yet joined the agreement to do so.

Noting that the activation of the fund had acquired "special urgency" because of the "growing instability of the world commodity markets," he said: "I am pleased to inform you today that a decision has been taken on the USSR joining the agreement, and I am authorized to sign it in the course of the seventh session."

"We hope that putting this agreement into effect will promote the creation of a more stable and predictable situation on the world commodity markets in the interest of both importing and exporting countries," Mr Aristov said, adding that this would be "most important" for ensuring the "economic security of states" and the practical implementation of a "new international economic order."

To become operational, the 1980 agreement would have to be ratified by at least 90 countries representing at least two-thirds or 66.66 per cent of the capital subscriptions. According to the latest tally, UNCTAD sources said, 94 countries have so far ratified it.

They account for subscriptions totalling 277.6 million dollars or 59.06 per cent of the total required.

Voicing "deep appreciation and gratitude" for the Soviet move, the conference chairman, Bernard Chidzero of Zimbabwe, said it meant that "the long-waited entry into force of the Common Fund agreement has actually become a reality," adding that Soviet ratification would bring the total percentage of directly contributed capital to 65.26 per cent, "only 1.4 per cent short of the required two-thirds."

UNCTAD Secretary General Kenneth Dadzie of Ghana stressed the "political significance" of the Soviet decision, saying it augured well for "an ever more active involvement by the USSR in international economic cooperation for development."

He announced that the Soviet minister would formally sign the agreement at a ceremony Tuesday.

Western diplomats said the Soviet move indirectly put industrialized countries as a group "somewhat on the defensive" because it coincided with sharp reactions in the Third World camp against the "hands-off" attitude adopted by Washington.

Speaks on 'New Thinking'

LD132104 Moscow TASS in English 1933 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Text] Geneva July 13 TASS -- Many speakers at the current 7th session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) have called for practical actions, for switching from fruitless debates and promises to specific measures designed to make the world economy healthier.

The switch to wide-scale and constructive cooperation between all groups of countries and a joint search for solutions to global economic problems, said Boris Aristov, minister of foreign trade of the U.S.S.R., in his remarks at the session today, should become the reflection of new thinking in the UNCTAD system.

Like a majority of other countries, the Soviet Union advocates the restructuring of international economic relations on a just and democratic basis and recognition of the need for establishing a new international economic order, the Soviet minister said. The concept of ensuring economic security is in perfect consonance with that idea. Problems of development are inseparately linked with disarmament -- only disarmament will make it possible to release vast additional funds and devote them to development needs.

UNCTAD could make [word indistinct] contribution to that cause, Boris Aristov said.

Commenting on the problem of debt redemption, the Soviet representative proposed, among other things, that annual payments of the debtor-nations be limited to such sums which would not damage the interests of their social and economic development.

At the same time it is important to combat protectionism and press for the restructuring of the monetary and fiscal [words indistinct] measures to develop equitable and open multilateral trade for all, Boris Aristov said.

The Soviet Union, is consistently working to expand economic ties with the developing countries and helps them establish and develop their national economies, the speaker went on. The U.S.S.R. has launched revolutionary reforms with the aim of accelerating progress of socialist society. At the same time their purpose is to promote our country's participation in international division of labor. That, too, would assist the development of international commerce.

The Soviet representative announced the decision of the U.S.S.R. to join the UNCTAD agreement on the establishment of a common fund of commodities.

This issue has lately acquired major importance, Boris Aristov explained. The Soviet Union hoped that when the agreement goes into effect it will promote a more stable and predictable situation on world commodity markets. Such a situation is one of the essential factors for ensuring economic security of nations and carrying out the United Nations plan of action for the establishment of a new international economic order.

The delegates received the announcement with interest. UNCTAD Secretary-General Kenneth Dadzie said that the Soviet Union's decision had major political importance and would help the current UNCTAD session achieve constructive results.

IZVESTIYA Cites Aristov

PM151339 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Jul 87 Morning Edition p 4

[Unnamed IZVESTIYA correspondent dispatch: "UNCTAD: For International Economic Security"]

[Text] Geneva -- A shift to broad and constructive cooperation between all groupings of countries and a joint search for solutions to global problems of the modern world economy must embody the new thinking in UNCTAD, B.I. Aristov, head of the Soviet delegation and USSR minister of foreign trade, stated at the Seventh UNCTAD Session.

Proceeding from the need to make a practical contribution to solving the problems of restructuring international economic relations on a just and democratic basis, the head of the USSR delegation stressed. The Soviet leadership has examined the question of bringing into force the agreement elaborated within the UNCTAD framework concerning the establishment of a common fund for raw material goods.

As is well known, the Nonaligned Movement and the "Group of 77," taking into consideration the importance of implementing this agreement, asked countries that have not yet joined this agreement to adopt a positive decision on the question. Addressing the UNCTAD delegates, he said, I can report with satisfaction that it has been decided that the Soviet Union is to join the agreement on a common fund, and I have been instructed to sign it during the conference's seventh session.

We hope that the implementation of this agreement will facilitate the creation of a more stable and predictable situation in world raw material markets in the interests of both importer countries and exporter countries. The creation of this situation is one of the most important factors in ensuring states' economic security and putting into practice the UN action program to establish a new international economic order.

In his speech the USSR minister of foreign trade underlined the need for constructive businesslike examination of ways and prospects for developing international trade, including multilateral trade talks, normalization of the international raw material trade, alleviation of the situation in the least developed countries, and solution of the problem of foreign debt.

The minister stressed that the adoption within the UNCTAD framework of a program for the further development of trade and economic cooperation between countries with different social systems would have great significance. This would also enable us and all other states to have additional mutually acceptable guidelines for developing cooperation.

Questions of establishing a new international economic order are indissolubly linked with questions of disarmament and development, the Soviet spokesman stressed. UNCTAD could make its own contribution to elaborating principles for utilizing the resources released as a result of the reduction of military budgets for the good of the world community, including developing countries.

In the course of general discussion delegations from Cuba, France, Egypt, Norway, and other countries expounded their positions. The Seventh UNCTAD Session, in which 168 states are participating, is continuing its work.

Drobkov on UNCTAD 'Challenge'

PM160936 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Jul 87 Second Edition p 5

[Vladislav Drobkov "Commentator's Column": "Challenge of the Times"]

[Text] The Seventh UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) Session is under way in Geneva. About 1,000 delegates from 167 states belonging to this prestigious organization are seeking ways of resolving the complex problems of the present economic situation.

Let us be frank -- mankind, despite the obvious achievements of science and technology, social progress, and the successes of the national liberation struggle, has not yet established a just economic order in his common home. On some "floors" of this building, people are swamped by overproduction, while on others they cannot create a minimal industrial potential. In some places people wallow in luxury, in others they die of hunger and disease. With rare exceptions, one and the same trend prevails: The rich get richer, the poor get poorer.

Of course, this abnormal situation is nothing new, its roots go back firmly into the evil past when many of today's "rich" countries totally dominated the "poor" and preyed parasitically on their backwardness or direct dependence. But perhaps it is only now, in our interdependent world, that the old injustice has turned into a new threat. A threat to the very future of mankind, which is peering into the ever widening gulf between wealth and and poverty, progress and backwardness. There is a growing awareness of the fact that without economic security, the corresponding international security cannot be achieved.

The present UNCTAD session is examining such "sore points" in today's economy as the problem of debts, falling prices for raw materials, and the disastrous situation of the underdeveloped countries. [paragraph continues]

The representatives of the USSR and the other socialist states and the majority of the developing countries call for a radical restructuring of international economic relations on a just and democratic basis and the establishment of a new economic order.

Constructive proposals in this direction have been heard in Geneva. In particular, the Soviet Union has proposed limiting the debtor countries' payments to a level which would not damage their socioeconomic development. Our country has announced its decision to adhere to the agreement on establishing a common fund of raw material goods capable of stabilizing the world market. In the opinion of many participants in the session, the decisive contribution to improving the economic situation could be made by disarmament measures and the channeling of the resources thus freed into the needs of development.

Unfortunately, the representatives of a number of Western countries are taking a different position in Geveva. They still seek to protect the selfish interests of their monopolies and perpetuate the dependent position of the weaker states.

In these conditions, the UNCTAD session is called upon to promote the quest for a collective basis for concrete measures to improve the economic situation and unravel global economic problems. Because mankind's survival and his ability to respond worthily to the challenge of the times depend to a considerable extent on this.

ZHUKOV STRESSES PAN-EUROPEAN COMMONALITY

PM161227 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Jul 87 Second Edition p 4

[Political Observer Yuriy Zhukov article: "Two Dwellings Under One Roof"]

[Text] During these long summer days you often hear English, French, German, Italian, Spanish, and Dutch being spoken by the walls of the Moscow Kremlin, in Warsaw's Stare Miasto, on the Charles Bridge in Prague, and on the streets of Berlin, Budapest, and Bucharest. On the Acropolis in ancient Athens, the Forum in Rome, and in the Tower of London you will increasingly often hear conversations between Russians, Ukrainians, Belorussians, Poles, Hungarians, Bulgarians, Czechs, Slovaks, Serbs, Croatians, and Slovenes.

They are all equally interested in and treasure Europe's sacred stones, as we call the very rich legacy of a civilization which, by nature, is so diverse and so integrated, whose cradle was our continent many centuries ago, and whose light illuminated the whole world.

We Europeans are very diverse. Each people has its own lifestyle, its own way of thinking, and its own customs. We live, so to speak, in different parts of our great home but under one common roof. Elementary human wisdom suggests we should behave as befits reasonable neighbors -- not preventing one another from living his own life and looking after our common home together.

Whether or not some people like the way their neighbor leads his life, you do not force him to accept your taste. He is the master in his own home. If you establish normal human relations with him, this will benefit you both. This is even more the case when applied to neighboring states, European states which formed during an historical process taking many centuries.

Why am I recalling these apparently basic and well-known truths now? Simply because not everyone learns the lessons of history. If, 42 years ago in Potsdam, agreements were signed which guaranteed Europe a secure life, as we all felt confident then, dark clouds are again gathering over our common home.

Why? Well, because the clearer the prospect of arms reduction -- above all, nuclear arms reduction! -- in Europe becomes and the more realistic the possibility of mutually beneficial cooperation between West and East Europe becomes, the stronger the opposition those who do not like this at all.

The latest noisy campaign for a revision of the political and territorial realities which came about in Europe as a result of World War II was prompted by the U.S. President who, when speaking in West Berlin recently, gave encouragement to the previously crestfallen revanchists when he demanded that the "wall" between the FRG and the GDR be torn down. Bellicose passions are again being inflamed on the pretext of the struggle against the "division" of Europe. Furthermore, it is being made to seem that Europe's present borders resulted from the "predatory actions" of the USSR and were not the logical consequence of the destruction of Hitler's Reich, which tried to reduce Europe to slavery.

One after another, the leaders of West Europe's states have been following Reagan in declaring the "German question" open, as though there had never been any Potsdam agreements, or any treaties between the FRG and the USSR, the GDR, Poland, and Czechoslovakia which proclaimed the inviolability of the postwar borders, or a four-power agreement on West Berlin, which clearly stated that this city does not belong to the FRG, nor will it belong to it in the future. Just a few days ago French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac joined in this demagogic campaign when he found time to dash to West Berlin where he aped the U.S. President in casting doubt on the postwar borders in Europe.

Those who are inspiring this campaign must see that it is futile. Everyone knows that borders between states have only been changed by war and at the cost of much bloodshed. Paris and Bonn, for example, should at least remember the bitter destiny of Alsace, which has changed hands three times in just 100 years.

Coveting other country's borders has always been a risky venture, fraught with disaster. It is especially dangerous to flirt with revanchist ideas in the nuclear missile age. If some Westerners are trying to decalre the question of the political and territorial realities in Europe "open" once again, this demonstrates a stubborn refusal to abandon the conventional political standards of the Cold War era of the fifties.

The European socialist countries are countering all these relapses into the past policy by consistently, determinedly, coolly, and unemotionally offering the diametrically opposite concept of a European security based on the new thinking.

One of the most important buttresses of the bridge leading to durable peace in Europe can and must be provided by constructive collaboration among the Europeans, to whose attention the Soviet Union persistently draws the idea of the "common European home," in contrast to the idea of the division of Europe into two warring camps. The concept of the "common European home," as our leadership has repeatedly pointed out, means recognizing that the people inhabiting our ancient continent form a definite and integrated whole, even if their states belong to different social systems and, furthermore, even if many of them belong to opposing military political blocs.

The facts show that the idea of a "common European home" is finding an ever greater response and understanding in this real Europe of the late 20th century, despite its sociopolitical diversity and proliferation of nation states.

Long and dilligent efforts have intimidated the inhabitants of the western half of our common home with the invention of a Soviet "cutthroat." They are told ad infinitum that Moscow is harboring plans to conquer the entire continent and then the whole planet. These fabrications are still being spread now. But the longer it goes on, the less convincing they sound. It is no coincidence that the well-known U.S. politician and public figure G. Kennan, who 40 years ago called for the "containment" of the Soviet Union, recently published an astonishing admission in the journal FOREIGN AFFAIRS:

"It is perfectly clear to me that the Soviet leaders do not want war with us and do not intend to begin war. In particular, I have never believed (!) that they considered that the military seizure of West Berlin serves their interests or that they could carry out an attack on this region at all."

The well-known U.S. diplomat Jonathan Dean, whose career also began in the cold war period, has made a similar acknowledgment.

In his recently published book "Watershed in Europe," he sets out to prove that the myth of the USSR's military superiority and its perfidious schemes are built on sand. "The old criteria used for approaching the Russians' conduct cease to apply," the well-known West German magazine DER SPIEGEL commented on his acknowledgment.

Justice demands the recognition of the fact that the understanding of this obvious truth is forcing many West European leaders to show increasing interest in the concept of a "common European home," especially since this concept does not at all preclude the processes of integration developing in the West as they are in Eastern Europe or of cooperation between the West European states and their partner across the ocean. The Soviet side has explained that clearly and precisely.

Of course it would be a mistake to believe that after these explanations the ideas of the new thinking will soon be taken up by our partners in Western Europe. The force of inertia in politics is great, especially when it is interwoven with the practice of ideological struggle. But it would be an even greater mistake not to notice the growing popularity of the businesslike approach to the development of East-West relations in Europe.

It is no coincidence that this question is at the center of attention at all meetings between leaders of the West European countries and the Soviet leadership. I recall, for example, that at the end of M.S. Gorbachev's meeting with British Prime Minister M. Thatcher on 30 March it was announced that the interlocutors advocated the strategy of the "common European home" by means of developing all-around cooperation in economic, scientific, cultural, and humanitarian relations.

The same thoughts were expressed by the two sides during the meetings between the Soviet leader and French leader F. Mitterrand in July last year and with Prime Minister J. Chirac in May this year.

The concept of the "common European home" was also the topic of discussion during M.S. Gorbachev's meeting with FRG President R. von Weizsaecker in July. [paragraph continues]

The interlocutors agreed that the time had come to consider an all-European process which could serve Europe as a whole. This is an important and urgent matter, they believe, especially since it is not only Europeans but mankind as a whole which is now faced with the supreme problems of survival, the environment, the scientific and technical revolution and its social consequences, mutual information, energy, and the population problem. No matter how complex these problems are, they can be resolved, if we are guided by the new thinking stressed the Soviet side.

Yes, the new thinking is opening up far-reaching prospects for a radical improvement of international relations. Let us not forget, however, that these prospects will only become real if the accords designed to maintain good neighborly relations in our unique common home divided in two but under a single roof are successfully implemented.

One cannot fail to agree with the ideas expressed by FRG Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher in an article published in Bonn on 7 July. Urging the West Europeans to "formulate and implement bold concepts for all of Europe -- from the Atlantic to the Urals -- for the kind of Europe in which states with different political and social systems could coexist in conditions of peaceful competition," the FRG foreign minister stated in the article: "According to the new thinking, which is now guiding the Soviet leaders in their actions, this bold policy should be viewed as an opportunity, not a threat... We must all strive to ensure Europe's peaceful future."

Indeed, the removal of confrontation and the establishment of the kind of cooperation which could safeguard mankind's survival are only possible if the whole world contributes to the solution of this task rather than one side sitting idly doing nothing while the other side struggles to achieve those goals!

ABLAMOV ON U.S.-EEC TALKS, 'HAUGHTY ATTITUDES'

LD131721 Moscow TASS in English 1638 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow July 13 TASS -- TASS analyst Ivan Ablamov writes:

[The EEC delegation which ended trade negotiations in Washington last week faced for an umpteenth time the haughty attitude of the USA to economic interests of its allies. When trade contradictions between the USA and the EEC became too stormy last spring, a decision was taken to postpone new negotiations for several months "to cool down passions". However, during this time passions have become even more incandescent, above all due to the position of Washington which regards foreign economic relations from the point of view of its imperial interests.

The USA toughened its position, demanding concessions from the EEC on trade in agricultural goods, long-range communications means, planes and electronic facilities. In the recent past Washington threatened the EEC with sanctions in the "Macaroni war". Seeking to increase Western Europe's dependence on the U.S. market, Washington takes punitive measures against West European firms trading in advanced technology with the socialist countries and wants to undermine their economic ties with the East.

Last but not least, the U.S. Congress is debating a legislative act spearheaded both at allies and other countries. Washington which likes haranguing on "freedom of international trade", reports to protectionism to improve its economic situation at the expense of other countries. Japan, Canada and Latin American countries denounced the legislative act being prepared in the USA as a damage to world trade.

The EEC delegation also resolutely protested, pointing out that it would trigger off counter measures and would undermine further negotiations. A special emphasis was made on the fact that the reason for U.S. foreign trade difficulties should be looked for not in the policy of other countries but in the loss of competitiveness by U.S. products and huge budget deficits.

The call for common sense was ignored by Washington. The negotiations conducted by the EEC delegation ended in a flop. Grave contradictions between the USA and the Common Market persist. The conclusion comes involuntarily to one's mind that Washington banks, as before, on diktat and on its arbitrary rule in international economic relations. Taking into account the U.S. role in the world economy, it does not want to take a responsible approach to the situation on the world market and to contribute to stability in economic relations.

In the context of these actions by Washington, the position taken by the socialist countries on world economic issues is becoming more appealing. The Berlin conference of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member states held late last May proposed specific moves to ensure international economic security and to establish stable, predictable and equal international economic relations. The socialist countries are for lifting protectionist barriers and restrictions and are against the use of economic relations for political purposes. All this would undoubtedly contribute to improving the international political climate.

REAGAN CABLE THANKS SUPREME SOVIET FOR GREETINGS

LD152306 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 15 Jul 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] U.S. President Reagan has sent a telegram to the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, which expresses, on behalf of the U.S. people, gratitude for the U.S. Independence Day congratulatory message. The telegram says the President shares hopes that in the present period our countries will be able to continue to work together for the purposes of strengthening peace and assisting toward international security and cooperation.

GROMYKO RECEIVES FORMER U.S. ENVOY WATSON 10 JULY

PM131125 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Jul 87 First Edition p 2

[Text] Moscow, July 10 -- Andrey Gromyko, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and president of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, received Thomas Watson, prominent U.S. representative of public and business sectors, president emeritus of the International Business Machinese Corporation, and former U.S. Ambassador to the USSR, in the Kremlin 10 July.

The American guest is a World War II veteran who helped organize the transport of military and other cargoes from the United States to the USSR via Alaska and then via the far eastern and Siberian expanses of our country. Between July 7 and 17 he intends to make a flight along the following route: Rye Brook (New York state), Reykjavik, Helsinki, Moscow, Syktyvkar, Novosibirsk, Irkutsk, Yakursk, Anadyr, and Alaska. This undertaking is aimed at reminding the public of cooperation with the Soviet Union during the war against fascism and at pointing to the need for taking joint efforts to remove the nuclear threat.

T. Watson had good memories of his meetings with Soviet people during the war -- they had made a most striking impression on him.

During the meeting, A. Gromyko noted that the USSR and the U.S. can fruitfully cooperate for the good of both nations and all mankind, despite differences in social and political systems. Such cooperation has turned now into a dire necessity if one considers the common task of preventing nuclear war, strengthening international security, and ensuring a peaceful future for the world. The Soviet proposals set out in statements by Mikhail Gorbachev are aimed at reaching these targets.

They meet the fundamental interests of the Soviet and American peoples and coincide with the aspirations of people in all countries. It stands to reason that measures on cutting and eliminating weapons and building a nuclear-free world, suggested by the Soviet Union, can become a reality provided our partners in the negotiations are ready for practical steps and specific understandings. For instance, the outcome of the negotiations on freeing Europe from medium-range nuclear missiles will be a serious test of their goodwill.

On his part, T. Watson favoured the positive development of U.S.-Soviet relations and real progress in talks on nuclear and space armaments. He has never betrayed this principle and has no intention of doing so.

A. Gromyko wished the U.S. veteran success in the flight across Siberia to Alaska and expressed confidence that the flight would strengthen mutual understanding between the Soviet and U.S. peoples.

Mark Garrison, well-known U.S. diplomat and director of the International Studies Center at Brown University (Rhode Island), who is making the flight with T. Watson and Academician G.A. Arbatov, director of the USSR Academy of Sciences' United States and Canada Institute, were present at the conversation.

KAMENTSEV DISCUSSES COOPERATION WITH HAMMER

LD151817 Moscow TASS in English 1725 GMT 15 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow July 15 TASS -- Questions of further expanding cooperation between Occidental Petroleum and Soviet organisations and enterprises were discussed here today by Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Vladimir Kamentsev and the president of Occidental Petroleum Dr. Armand Hammer.

U.S. DEMANDS JAPAN, NATO 'TOUGHEN' SOCIALIST TRADE

LD142056 Moscow TASS in English 1755 GMT 14 Jul 87

[Text] Tokyo July 14 TASS -- Washington has sent a memorandum to the governments of Tokyo and NATO member countries demanding that they toughen the discriminatory rules of the so called Coordinating Committee for Controlling Export to Socialist Countries (COCOM), it was reported today by the newspaper NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN, which is close to Japanese business circles. The American document provides for more stringent monitoring of trade operations with socialist countries and the adoption of stern sanctions against "violator" Western firms.

The United States is bent on obstructing by all possible means a normal development of international trade and, as noted by the newspaper, intends to establish control not only over the trade ties of its allies but also over the activities of companies in countries not belonging to COCOM.

The Reagan administration has offered its allies to replace the present "oral arrangement" within COCOM with an international agreement and to bring domestic legislation in COCOM member countries on trade with foreign countries in line with it.

Washington's aim is obvious -- under the pretext of ensuring Western interests -- to make Japan and Western Europe take orders from across the ocean. At the same time the American "hawks" hope that such a document would give them legal grounds to [word indistinct] sanctions against any foreign firm accused of violating the agreement, that is actually of playing the role of judge in international trade.

The American memorandum will be the main topic at the COCOM conference opening in Paris tomorrow. The Japanese business and financial circles are wary about these American demands and view them as contradicting the principles of the freedom of international trade, NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN points out.

EXPERIENCE OF PRC JOINT ENTERPRISES OUTLINED

PM081525 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 3 Jul 87 p 3

[Doctor of Economic Sciences Prof Ye. Konovalov article: "PRC: Joint Enterprises" -- first two paragraphs are reader's letter]

[Text] In connection with the improvement of foreign economic activity in our country, in particular the creation of joint enterprises, I would like to learn in more detail about the experience China has accumulated in this sphere.

V. Chernyy, teacher, Moscow.

Joint enterprises with foreign states began to be created in the PRC within the framework of the "open door" policy after the 3d Plenum of the 11th CPC Central Committee (December 1978), which adopted appropriate decisions.

According to figures for the end of last year, the PRC had used more than $20 billion in credits and direct capital investments from abroad and sanctioned the activity of 3,200 joint enterprises using some foreign capital and 130 enterprises using exclusively foreign capital.

Those enterprises in the PRC itself hold the greatest interest for us. At present it is impossible to speak of established types of enterprise: Various forms of cooperation on a bilateral and multilateral basis are still being tested in practice, and new management principles, forms of remuneration, and settlement with foreign partners are being tried. It is already possible, however, to speak of both certain successes and a number of negative phenomena.

Recently the activity of joint enterprises in Shanghai, Beijig, Tianjing, and Guangzhou has been analyzed. They are working highly efficiently on the whole. For example, in Tianjing the absolute majority of them have achieved 20 percent profitability, and some have achieved over 30 percent profitability, at a time when the profitability of enterprises throughout the country, according, to official data, is 11.9 percent.

The best results are recorded in cases where the finished output is geared not only to the domestic, but also to the world market. Take, for example, the factory in Guangzhou producing vitamin-enriched children's food products. The idea of creating it arose after scientists discovered that children in Asia consume fewer vitamins than those in the United States and Europe. In connection with the growth of the purchasing power of the population of the PRC and a number of Asian countries, the market for new food products is growing rapidly every year.

Community of the sides' goals and interests is a necessary condition for joint enterprises' successful activity, as Chinese experience shows. They must not be of an immediate, short-term nature; decisions must be based on the long-term prospect.

The work of joint enterprises has exposed several weak links in their management by Chinese personnel. It is noted that previously their work essentially lacked an element of risk and a readiness to display economic initiative and assume responsibility for decisions. This inertia has hitherto found expression in a desire for leisurely work and devotion to numerous discussions and consultations regarding all economic questions, including minor ones.

Great flaws have also been revealed in the training of administrative cadres. Most of them understand technology quite well but lack the flexible economic thinking which work in the new conditions demands.

The protracted work of most Chinese industrial enterprises for the undemanding domestic market has bred a frivolous attitude toward output quality and an absence of due concern about its sale.

In joint enterprises the high quality of output and its successful sale acquire the significance of absolute priorities -- for they must not count on help from the state. Therefore instilling in each worker a sense of responsibility for the end result is an equally important task which they face.

The profound changes under way in PRC joint enterprises in the system of labor organization and remuneration, social insurance, and the work of trade unions and party organizations are conditioned by this. Much work is being carried out in the ideological sphere. Unhealthy tendencies toward a sweatshop system and toward encouraging a work style based on Western models are being overcome. Huge difficulties are arising in connection with the use of the work force in "slack" seasons and periods of a deterioration in market conditions. There are even individual cases where foreign capital's share has been withdrawn from joint enterprise funds.

In short, the first results of the work of joint enterprises in China show growing pains and new forms of development of mutually beneficial relations with foreign countries hitherto unknown to socialism.

PRC MOVES TO SUPPRESS ILLEGAL PUBLISHING

PM161011 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Jul 87 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "PRC State Council Decision"]

[Text] Beijing, 13 Jul -- The PRC State Council has decided to suppress illegal publishing activity in the country. Recently, it is noted in the document published today, there has been a significant increase in the number of brochures, newspapers, and magazines containing clearly cheap, inferior material published for commercial purposes by various organizations and individuals. The articles contained in them have a corrupting influence on the population, particularly young people, and undermining the foundations of socialist culture and ideology.

In accordance with the decision, only state publishing houses in China can engage in publishing work.

BIRYUKOV COMMENTS ON NAKASONE MISSILE STATEMENT

LD161631 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1030 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow 16 Jul (TASS) -- TASS Political Observer Askold Biryukov writes:

Yasuhiro Nakasone, the prime minister of Japan, gratifying those militarist circles in the United States for whom the prospect of a possible Soviet-U.S. agreement on medium-range missiles sticks in the throat, has made another statement in the Japanese parliament, which can only be regarded as blatantly playing up to those circles. Not satisfied with his sensational proposal that the United States should site [razmestit] medium-range misiles in Alaska, which he made at the recent conference of the "Seven" in Venice, the head of the Japanese Government has gone further, clearly indicating the target for those missiles, too -- The Soviet town of Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskiy in the eastern fringe of the USSR. In his words, those medium-range missiles, targeted on "an important Soviet base" in "far eastern Siberia," may allegedly become a good "trump card" in talks with the USSR.

It is evident that the Japanese premier is troubled by the dubious laurels of the U.S. political players, who are accustomed to approach serious international problems as they would a poker game. The Washington players now have in their hands a whole stack of "trump cards," apart from the one the Japanese premier slipped them. Attempts are being made to convert "Pershing-2's" into "Pershing-1B's", to switch land-based cruise missiles to sea-based cruise missiles, to move away from a solution of the issue of eliminating the 72 U.S. nuclear warheads on the West German "Pershing-1A" missiles, and, in addition, there is the deployment [razvertyvaniye] of the notorious SDI, and so on. But, typically, all these "trump cards" have the same military characteristics. They all testify to the efforts of the militant circles in the United States not to allow nuclear disarmament, and ensure that Washington has military superiority and the so-called "position of strength," from which, in its view, it would be possible to dictate its will to the Soviet Union and secure unilateral disarmament from it.

But the Soviet Union has a different approach to international affairs, a serious and realistic approach. Moscow will not accept the U.S. nor the Japanese bluff. The USSR is prepared to take into account the anxiety of the other side at the talks.

But the other side must not ignore Moscow's anxiety. What is more, there are more than enough grounds for the latter. For some reason or other Japan stubbornly refuses to take note of this. They do not want to take into account that the U.S. nuclear potential in the Far East aimed at the USSR is concentrated largely on such delivery vehicles as aircraft carriers, sea-based cruise missiles, and planes carrying nuclear weapons. The latter includes bases in Japan itself, in particular in Misawa where the number of U.S. fighter bombers deployed almost doubled the other day. The United States is not only reluctant to remove these nuclear weapons from the region, but even has plans to build them up in the future, including with Tokyo's assistance, which is what Nakasone's proposal is all about.

That, then is how offical Tokyo regards this play about scrapping medium-range missiles "on a global scale"! We will put it bluntly. This is a dangerous game. With "trumps" like those being played in Washington and Tokyo one soon gets into trouble.

NAKASONE REMARKS ON TOSHIBA SALES TO USSR

LD151858 Moscow TASS in English 1740 GMT 15 Jul 87

[Text] Tokyo July 15 TASS -- The Japanese Government does not have at its disposal any sufficient evidence to the effect that machine-tools produced by Toshiba Kikai made Soviet submarines impossible to detect by NATO's sonars, Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone had to admit today when answering a question of a socialist deputy.

And still, the Japanese prime minister again repeated accusations against Toshiba Kikai trumped up by the U.S. The Pentagon used the delivery by that firm of several metal-working machine-tools which allegedly can work screw propellers for submarines for whipping up a noisy anti-Soviet campaign in Japan. During hearings in Parliament opposition deputies called in question accusation against Toshiba Kikai and the stand of the government which unconditionally accepted the U.S. fabrications.

JAPAN TIGHTENS CURBS ON EXPORTS TO BLOC

PM131103 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 9 Jul 87 p 4

[TASS correspondent N. Geronin report: "Intensifying the Atmosphere"]

[Text] Tokyo -- Despite the fact that Japanese business circles are increasingly openly voicing their displeasure over the persecution of the Toshiba concern at Washington's request, the Japanese authorities continue to intensify the atmosphere of suspicion surrounding trade and economic ties betwen Japanese companies and the Soviet Union and other socialist states. Hajime Tamura, minister of international trade and industry, has issued instructions to 136 Japanese industrial organizations to strictly abide by the provisions of the notorious Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls (Cocom), which stipulate discriminatory restrictions on trade with socialist countries. He has demanded that they submit plans by 20 July to toughen up the supervision of trade operations with socialist states. "The situation is grave, despite the resignation of the chairman of the Toshiba board of directors and the president of Toshiba," Tamura said to frighten representatives of the country's business world.

The Ministry of International Trade and Industry has decided to incorporate new punitive provisions concerning trade with socialist countries in the law on foreign currency and foreign trade control.

The Ministry of Transport is making its own contribution to the unseemly campaign aimed at restricting trade between Japanese firms and the Soviet Union. It has issued written instructions to the Japanese Shipbuilding Association and others to strictly abide by the Cocom bans.

DRPK PROTESTS AT ROK 'PROVOCATIVE RAIDS'

PM161557 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Jul 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Ending Hostile Actions"]

[Text] Pyongyang, 15 Jul -- A routine session of the Korean Military Armistice Commission was held in Panmunjom today. [paragraph continues]

KCNA reports that the DPRK representative protested against the continuing whipping up of tension in the demilitarized zone by the South Korean side. He noted numerous instances of South Korean violations of the armistice agreement and pointed to the danger posed by such actions, which undermine peace and stability on the Korean peninsula. It was stressed that these hostile actions attest to the South Korean authorities' lack of interest in defusing tension and show that they are preparing to unleash an aggressive war against the DPRK people. The DPRK representative demanded an end to the provocative raids that are hampering the peaceful unification of the motherland.

MOSCOW TV COMMENTS ON ACHIEVEMENTS IN PYONGYANG

LD101959 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1050 GMT 4 Jul 87

["Community" program, presented by Viktor Lyubovtsev, with video report from Pyongyang by Vladimir Tsvetov]

[Excerpts] Now, the last page of our magazine, a report from the capital of People's Korea. Here is Vladimir Tsvetov:

[Tsvetov] The teak leaf's bright flower enriches its fragrance, and an extravagance of blooms in a garden is no disturbance to the atmosphere. These lines were written by an ancient Korean poet 600 years ago, and involuntarily come to mind here in the center of Pyongyang. Indeed, the bright architectural flower that enriches the monumental forms is not in the least a disturbance to the atmosphere, just as an extravagance of blooms is not in a garden. I did not start my story about Pyongyang on this rather poetical note out of love for the fair wordsmith; it should simply be remembered that over a 3-year period the American aggressors rained down upon this city 428,748 bombs -- one for each inhabitant -- and that 34 years ago the landscape here was reminiscent of the moon.

The international commission that investigated the crimes of the American aggressors came to the conclusion that the degree of destruction in Pyongyang was 100 percent and that it would take a hundred years to restore the city. Even the friends of the DPRK said the same at the time, and advised that the capital be built on a new site. But Pyongyang has 1,500 years of history, and the people have continued. Even after 10 years the city had begun to take on its present features.

The monument to the Chuche idea dominates the city panorama. The great Chuche idea -- I am quoting from an official Korean publication -- is a world outlook placing stress on the individual. The great leader Kim Il-song teaches, the book goes on to say, that for society to be transformed on the basis of the Chuche idea, one has staunchly to maintain independent and creative standpoints and consistently follow the line toward the three revolutions: ideological, technological, and cultural. To judge from the appearance of the capital, these ideas have indeed enabled much to be achieved. Spacious avenues with bus and trolleybus traffic have been laid out. Twenty and 30-story residential buildings have been built.

From ancient times Pyongyang has been called the city of willows. Each resident of Pyongyang now has around 48 square metres of green land -- a rare figure for capitals of the world. The city does not know what environmental pollution is. In Pyongyang there are 30 higher educational establishments and 40 technical colleges, along with 840 children's nurseries.

However, one should not abuse statistics -- they do not always provide a full picture of the subject. The People's Palace of Study is just one of the capital's 180 cultural facilities, but it is perhaps worth more than all the others taken together. You could also say the same about the (?Munsude) Theater. The metro stretches for 32 km. It has 24 stations, and they bear an exceptional stamp, both architecturally and artistically. The passenger should not simply travel from one station to another, but should be delighted by his journey. It is pleasant to see harmony both of form and content in the city's appearance. [passage omitted: correspondent Mikhail Kretov's interview with an architect from Moscow, who admires the town-planning and construction in Pyongyang; Tsvetov looks forward to more new building, showing artists impressions of new facilities being built for the 13th World Festival of Youth and Students]

In Pyongyang I have been told with pride that in one of the districts of the city, front-ranking builders built from materials calculated for the construction of 7,000 flats, almost three times more than that -- 20,000 flats. I have also heard about innovators from comrade Kim Dok-so's building team, who successfully use their 3 tonne crane to lift 30 tonne beams. This seems incredible, but this is the kind of work called for by the appeals of Chuche. Well, as we know, life is varied, and ridiculing someone's experience, or indiscriminately condemning it, is equally misleading, for no one has a monopoly on truth. However, as a consumer, I would probably avoid moving into one of the flats among those 20,000 built by the front-rankers of Pyongyang. A Moscow Architect has compared Pyongyang with a pearl. Looking at the city panorama, it is difficult now to agree.

YAZOV GREETS MONGOLIAN COUNTERPART ON ANNIVERSARY

PM131447 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Jul 87 Second Edition p 1

[Greetings message from Army General D. Yazov, USSR minister of defense, to Colonel General J. Yondon, Mongolian minister of defense, on Mongolian revolution anniversary]

[Text] Esteemed Comrade Minister!

I convey to you and to all personnel of the Mongolian People's Army a fraternal greeting and cordial congratulations in behalf of the Soviet Armed Forces and from myself personally on the occasion of your national holiday -- the 66th anniversary of the Mongolian people's revolution.

Soviet soldiers sincerely rejoice in the great successes the Mongolian people have achieved under the leadership of their militant vanguard -- the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party [MPRP] -- in socioeconomic development and strengthening the country's defense capability.

On the day of this glorious anniversary I wish the personnel of the Mongolian People's Army new successes in combat and political training and in implementing the decisions of the 19th MPRP Congress in the interests of further raising the combat readiness and capability of the Mongolian People's Army.

May the combat friendship and cooperation between our fraternal armies develop and strengthen!

With a communist greeting,

Army General D. Yazov, USSR minister of defense

U.S. USES MARCOS PLOT TO PRESSURE AQUINO

PM170901 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Jul 87 Second Edition p 5

[Own correspondent L. Kuznetsov dispatch under the rubric "Behind the Scenes of Events": "The Gentlemen Smiled, the Tape Turned"]

[Text] Manila -- A U.S. State Department representative recently visited the villa where the "Philippine exile" F. Marcos lives and very sternly ordered the former president not to hatch plots and intrigues against the Aquino administration and not to leave the U.S. state of Hawaii on any account.

The former president expressed the greatest surprise and was even offended: This treatment, he said, was unfounded. But the State Department's action was based on a tape of a conversation between Marcos R. Chastain and R. Hirschfeld. During the confidential and frank conversation the former president communicated his plans: He intended to send an army of 10,000 mercenaries accompanied by tanks, aircraft, and missiles to the Philippines. For this he needed money, not less than $25 million. He was hoping to get a loan easily because, the former dictator said, 1,000 tonnes of gold valued at 14 billion dollars are held in the Philippines in a secret cache known only to him (this fantastic sum appeared in many newspapers) and somewhere between $500 million and $1 billion are held in secret Swiss bank accounts.

Marcos did not suspect that the gentlemen (he formerly knew one of them as a lawyer), who had pressed for the meeting as traders in the weapons business, had brought bugging devices. One of them was found in an elegant, very diplomatic case. So the gentlemen smiled while the tape quietly turned. Immediately after the conversation Chastain and Hirschfeld, allegedly completely on their "own initiative," handed the tape to the U.S. authorities. The results are mentioned above.

At this point F. Marcos started to deny his words. His lawyers, including those in the Philippines, stated that the tape recording was a sham, that the tape had been put together with the help of sophisticated electronic apparatus using "fragments" from Marcos' previous conversations. It is difficult to prove anything here. But the question is this: Who gains from all this?

People in the Philippines firmly believe that the "gentlemen's seemingly quasi-criminal act is a game for high stakes. The United States is conducting it at the highest level, using Marcos as a weapon to pressure President Aquino's administration. By egging on the ex-dictator to make irresponsible remarks on the single theme "I shall return to the Philippines," the U.S. special services are maintaining the uneasy atmosphere in Manila and preventing the present administration from concentrating on solving the country's most acute economic and political problems. This in turn will lead to a weakening in the administration's position.

Such a result, Washington calculates, must force Manila to "lean even more on the U.S. shoulder." And, of course, when it comes to the U.S. bases in the archipelago, then in such a situation there can be no question of their elimination.

In this operation, which could be code-named "Marcos phobia," as well as the "stick" there is also a small "carrot." Having exposed Marcos' intrigues and prevented the landing of his "10,000 troops," Washington has done Manila a good turn. You have to express gratitude for a good turn. In this case the U.S. leadership accepts thanks in two "currencies" -- tractability and anticommunism.

This is what Philippine observers see behind the outwardly absurd act, which is difficult to explain from th standpoint of common sense, carried out by the "businessmen from the weapons business."

Meanwhile the arrest has been reported of three Philippine army officers in connection with a new intrigue against the Aquino government, the STAR newspaper has reported citing "military sources."

Operations "Luisita-1" and "Luisita-2" (Luisita is the name of the sugar plantations belonging to C. Aquino's family -- L.K.) envisaged seizing Manila International Airport, and then the Villamor Air Force Base, which is nearby. Rolando Abadilla, colonel and former chief on intelligence, an active participant in earlier demonstrations against the Aquino administration financed by former President Marcos, was named among the conspirators (it is not reported whether he has been arrested or not). It is thought in government circles that the present abortive mutiny was aimed at restoring the "exile" to power.

SRV'S NGUYEN VAN LINH INTERVIEWED BY NOVOYE VREMYA

BK161545 Moscow International Service in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Comrade Nguyen Van Linh, CPV Central Committee General Secretary said that the Great October Socialist Revolution in the USSR, the 70th anniversary of which will be celebrated this year, is the greatest event of the century.

Responding in an interview with the Moscow weekly NOVOYE VREMYA, Comrade Nguyen Van Linh pointed out: Over the past 70 years the Soviet Union has become a powerful socialist state. It has continued to play the role of a pioneer blazing the way to communism.

Comrade Nguyen Van Linh stressed: The success of the Vietnamese revolution is closely linked with the thoughts of the October Revolution and with the assistance and support of the Soviet Union, other socialist countries, and friends on the five continents.

DRA'S NAJIBULLAH EXTENDS CEASE-FIRE FOR 6 MONTHS

LD150834 Moscow TASS in English 0637 GMT 15 Jul 87

[Text] Kabul July 15 TASS -- General Secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, Najib, in his Afghan television appearance declared the country leadership's decision to prolong the unilateral ceasefire for another six months, as of July 15.

The Afghan Army, he said, will hit only retaliatory strikes on caravans with weapons and ammunition and counterrevolutionaries' military bases and would take no steps if the opposite side observed the proposed ceasefire. The Afghan leader put forward concrete proposal to form a coalition government with the participation of representatives of the opposition within the framework of the national reconciliation policy.

GOALS OF DRA DRAFT CONSTITUTION REPORTED

LD151209 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1015 GMT 15 Jul 87

[Text] Kabul 15 July (TASS) -- The Afghan press today published the DRA draft constitution, which has been put forth for nationwide discussion. The preamble to the document notes in particular that the progressive and revolutionary transformations carried out in the country in recent years have created favorable prerequisites for the attainment of higher goals -- the motherland's prosperity and the people's happiness. The Afghans are adopting this constitution to strengthen the independence, national sovereignty, and the defense of the country's territorial integrity; to achieve national reconciliation and unity taking history, traditions, and the mores of the people into account; to safeguard social justice and equality; to develop the national economy; to raise the people's living standards; and to increase the DRA's role and authority on the international scene. At the same time, the draft stresses, we are aware of the historic changes taking place in the country and in the modern world. We comply with the principles of Islam, maintain the continuity of constitutional development in Afghanistan, and express our respect for the UN Charter and for the general declaration on human rights.

Today's newspaper features the text of the address by the PDPA Central Committee, the Revolutionary Council, the Council of Ministers, and a number of DRA public organizations to the Afghan people in connection with the draft constitution put forth for national discussion. Our country, the document states, has embarked on a new stage in its development along the road of freedom and independence, and along the road of reconciliation. The draft constitution reflects the people's desire for a better life, for peace and unity. It corresponds to the interests of all social strata and population groups, all of Afghanistan's nationalities and tribes.

Afghanistan must be a sovereign, nonaligned, neutral, peace-loving Islamic state, it says. The DRA will continue to strive to extend its ties with peace-loving states, and to strengthen its traditional friendly relations with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries.

The document expresses confidence that the discussion of the draft constitution will serve to rally the people in the struggle for reconciliation and for the establishment of lasting peace in the country.

PRAVDA NOTES DRAFT CONSTITUTION PROVISIONS

PM161459 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Jul 87 First Edition p 4

[Special correspondent B. Tretyachenko dispatch: "Afghan Constitution"]

[Text] Kabul, 14 Jul -- An appeal to the Afghan people from the PDPA Central Committee, the Revolutionary Council, the Republic's Council of Ministers, and central and public organizations has been published here in connection with the publication of the draft constitution submitted for nationwide discussion.

Important positive transformations are under way in the country. Afghanistan's basic law has been submitted for nationwide discussion on behalf of the Loya Jirgah with a view to strengthening the country's independence, achieving national reconciliation, developing the domestic economy, and enhancing the DRA'S role and prestige in the international arena.

The draft constitution enshrines the following provisions: State power belongs to the people; the defense of the fatherland is the sacred duty of everyone; DRA citizens are equal before the law, they have the right to leisure, free education, health care, and social welfare, the right to criticize, and so forth. The document goes on to state that political parties can be created in the DRA provided that their programs and statutes do not contravene the constitution or the Republic's laws. The religion of Afghanistan is Islam. The Fatherland Front is the uniting and coordinating center of the political parties and social organizations comprising it. The PDPA is society's mobilizing and guiding force.

In accordance with the draft constititution, state, cooperative, joint, private, and personal property exists in the DRA, as does property belonging to social organizations. Under the law the state guarantees the maintenance of the right of peasants and other landowners to own land and encourages the activity of national entrepreneurs. DRA citizens, who are guaranteed freedom of speech and convictions, are entitled to hold peaceful meetings and demonstrations.

The draft constitution contains sections devoted to the powers of the Republic's supreme organs of power.

PAKISTANI NUCLEAR POTENTIAL SERVES U.S. STRATEGY

LD151615 Moscow TASS in English 1500 GMT 15 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow July 15 TASS -- Commentator Leonid Ponomarev writes:

A certain Arshard Perwez of Pakistani extraction was arrested in Philadelphia for attempting to take out of the United States to Pakistan materials that could be used in the manufacture of nuclear arms. Components for a gas centrifuge for enriching uranium were discovered in a 25-ton container.

This is not the first time both in the United States and other Western countries that Pakistani agents try to purchase equipment and technology for the manufacture of atomic bombs. In 1979 Albrecht Migula, a European, was found guilty by the FRG Government of smuggling into Pakistan an installation for processing uranium powder - a component for enriching uranium. In 1982 Pakistan purchased in Sweden a big roentgen (?installation) for taking pictures of nuclei. In 1984 three Pakistanis were detained in the United States when trying to take out of the country high-technology electronic kryton switches used in nuclear arms. Islamabad tries to get through American, West German and French companies consignments of high-quality graphite for nuclear reactors that produce plutonium.

One could cite many other facts illustrating the Pakistani authorities' stubborn intent to develop their own "Islamic bomb". In an interview to the American TIME magazine President Ziaul Haq of Pakistan said that Pakistan has the potential to develop the atomic bomb and that Pakistan cna manufacture such a bomb whenever it so wishes. In March of this year the Pakistani physicist Abdul Qadir Khan, who is called the "father of the Pakistani atomic bomb", told newsmen that the atomic bomb has already been tested on a modelling stand and that the bomb's triggering mechanism had also been tested.

The American intelligence has information that the Pakistani bomb will be analogous to those developed in the United States during World War Two and have a yield of 10-15 kilotons. Late in May the newspaper HINDUSTAN TIMES reported that Pakistan had secretly purchased a modern uranium-enriching complex.

This will enable it to produce ten atomic bombs a year. The installations presently operating at the Pakistani centre in Kahuta have a capacity of ten kilos of enriched uranium a year. The purchase of this complex was accomplished through the Cologne-based firm "Leybold".

There is no doubt that Pakistan, bristling with American-supplied weapons and having its own nuclear weapons as well, can serve as a basic element in U.S. strategy in the region. But this creates a threat not only to the countries of the region but also to the entire world.

ZIAUL HAQ'S 'BASELESS ACCUSATIONS' REJECTED BY DRA

LD162123 Moscow TASS in English 2020 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Kabul July 16 TASS -- A spokesman for Afghanistan's Foreign Ministry rejected accusations by Pakistani President Ziaul Haq against Afghanistan over recent terrorist acts in Karachi.

Ziaul Haq, BAKHTAR news agency quoted him as saying today, tries to link the explosions in Pakistan's largest city with the activities of the Afghan Government and Pakistan's aid to Afghan refugees. The aims of such fabrications are clear: The Islamabad military regime uses slander against Afghanistan to distract the Pakistani people from the true causes of the crisis situation inside the country.

The existing situation is the result of burgeoning contradictions in Pakistani society and social problems which led to unrest, strikes and demonstrations. However, terrorism in Pakistan and baseless accusations by the Pakistani side against Afghanistan are not new phenomena. Regretfully, president of Pakistan himself made attacks against Afghanistan this time. But even with the help of such statements, the spokesman said Ziaul Haq will not be able to conceal the truth about Afghanistan, which strives for peace and detente in the region and the world at large, pursues the policy of non-intervention in the internal affairs of other states, the principles of goodneighbourliness and peaceful settlement.

COMMENTS ON INDIAN PRESIDENTIAL POLL, TERRORISM

PM151419 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Jul 87 Morning Edition p 4

[N. Pakhlin "International Notes": "India: Events Surrounding the Presidential Elections"]

[Text] On 13 July India's eighth presidential elections are being held.

The term of office of Zail Singh, the present head of state, expires 24 July. The election results will not be known until 16 July. Under the Indian Constitution the president is elected for a term of 5 years by an electoral college. The college consists of members of both houses of parliament and deputies of the legislative assemblies of the 25 states into which India is divided.

Even though three candidates were nominated for the supreme state office, the main contest has been between the present vice president Ramaswamy Venkataraman, the candidate of the ruling Indian National Congress-Indira party, and Krishna Iyer, former member of India's Supreme Court and the candidate of a number of opposition parties. Indian observers believe that R. Venkataraman is the most likely winner.

THE STATESMAN newspaper writes: "R. Venkataraman, the candidate of the Indian National Congress-Indira, is moving confidently toward election victory. An analysis of the arrangement of forces in the parliament and the legislative assemblies shows that he will be able to win a two-thirds majority of the votes." Then INDIAN EXPRESS also predicts a "convincing victory" for R. Venkataraman. At the same time, India's newspapers note the considerable activation of the opposition and of so-called dissidents within the Indian National Congress-Indira party itself who oppose its present leadership's course.

The presidential elections are being held in the complex atmosphere which has recently come about in India. There has been a sharp eruption of terrorist activity directed against India's territorial integrity and sovereignty. In the country's northern states bloody attacks have been committed by Sikh separatists striving to use terror and violence to destabilize the situation in India. In response, a wave of anti-Sikh actions has swept the country. In these conditions the authorities have been forced to take the appropriate measures. At a Delhi conference on combating terrorism in the north of the country it was decided to conduct operations to forestall terrorist activity in the seven states and two union territories there. It was decided to set up military units and special anti-terrorist detachments. The detachments will, in particular, collect intelligence data and coordinate the actions of various services.

In view of the explosive nature of the situation in a number of cities and population centers in the north of the country, the authorities have sent in regular troops. In addition, as the Indian minister of home affairs has noted, extra contingents of paramilitary police formations have been sent from the center to the northern states. Political and social organizations are being enlisted in the struggle against terrorism. For example, the Punjab organization of the Communist Party of India has launched a movement to unite the people and has appealed to the local population to set up armed volunteer detachments to repulse the terrorist attacks.

As Julio Ribeiro general director of the Punjab police, has reported, the security forces have uncovered two terrorist groups which had been directly involved in attacks on buses. Both groups belong to the so-called "Khalistan commando forces." Fourteen terrorists have been arrested. However, despite large-scale operations by the security forces involving the paramilitary police formations, the Sikh spearatists' terrorist attacks continue. In a single day in the Punjab, 11 people were killed, including Faridkot Sukkhminder [name as published] Singh, leader of the district organization of the Communist Party of India. India's newspapers report with concern that, according to the information available, some of the weapons supplied by the United States to the Afghan dushmans is passing via Pakistan into the Sikh terrorists' hands. "This development of events completely suits those international imperialist circles that are implementing a policy of destablization against states pursuing a course which they do not like," the INDIA PRESS AGENCY notes.

IRAQI MINISTER ARRIVES IN MOSCOW FOR 2 WEEK VISIT

JN151940 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1450 GMT 15 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow, 15 July (INA) -- 'Adnan Dawud Salman, Iraqi minister of local government, arrived in Moscow today leading a delegation on a 2-week visit to the Soviet Union. The Iraqi minister will take part in the celebrations of the Soviet-Iraq friendship days which will begin in Moscow on Friday. Celebrations will also be held in the Moldavian Soviet Socialist Republic to mark the glorious 17-30 July revolution anniversary.

In a statement to an INA correspondent in Moscow, the Iraqi minister said the visit comes within the framework of consolidating existing ties of friendship and cooperation between Iraq and the Soviet Union.

He said the Iraqi delegation will brief Soviet officials on Iraq's great developments and achievements with an emphasis on the developments witnessed by state organs under the leadership of President Saddam Husayn.

The Iraqi friendship delegation is accompanied by the Basra group for folklore arts which will give shows in Moscow and Kishinev, the capital of the Moldavian Republic.

Official Comments on Relations

JN152016 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 15 Jul 87

[Text] (Mikhail Prokiev), chairman of the Soviet-Iraqi Friendship Society, has reiterated his country's stand calling for a swift end to the Iraq-Iran war, achieving a just, comprehensive peace based on principles of international law, and solving problems through peaceful means. In a statement to an INA correspondent in Moscow today, he affirmed the Soviet Union is exerting its utmost to end this war and find a peaceful, just solution to the Iraqi-Iranian dispute.

(Prokiev) praised the existing relations between Iraq and the Soviet Union. He described these relations as very cordial. He said these relations derive their strength from the treaty of friendship and cooperation signed between the two countries, noting this treaty has laid down firm grounds for bilateral relations, particularly in the economic field.

(Prokiev) expressed his happiness and his country's welcome for the visit of the Iraqi friendship delegation headed by 'Adnan Dawud Salman, minister of local government, adding this visit will be very useful for both sides.

GORBACHEV CONGRATULATES TUNISIAN CP'S HARMEL

PM010903 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Jun 87 Second Edition p 1

[Gorbachev congratulates M. Harmel on election as secretary general of Tunisian Communist Party]

[Text] To Comrade Mohamed Harmel, secretary general of the Tunisian Communist Party.

Dear Comrade Mohamed Harmel!

I cordially congratulate you on your election as secretary general of the Tunisian Communist Party.

I wish you and all Tunisian Communists successes in the struggle for the vital interests of your country's working people, for peace, democracy, and social progress, for friendship between our states' peoples.

With comradely greetings,

M. Gorbachev.

NIKONOV BEGINS OFFICIAL WORKING VISIT TO POLAND

Departs Moscow 16 July

LD161524 Moscow TASS in English 1502 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow July 16 TASS -- Viktor Nikonov, a member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, left Moscow for Warsaw today.

He went there for a working visit at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party.

Meets PZPR's Michalek in Warsaw

LD161720 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1638 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Warsaw, 16 July (TASS) -- At the invitation of the PZPR Central Committee, Viktor Nikonov, Politburo member and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, arrived in Warsaw today on a working visit.

At the airport he was met by Zbigniew Michalek, Politburo member and secretary of the PZPR Central Committee, and other officials. USSR Ambassador to Poland Vladimir Brovikov was part of the welcoming party.

Opens Talks With Michalek

LD170444 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0104 GMT 17 Jul 87

[Text] A conversation has taken place in the PZPR Central Committee between Nikonov, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, who is in Poland on a visit, and Michalek, Politburo members and secretary of the PZPR Central Committee.

The sides informed each other about the course of implementing the 27th CPSU Congress decisions and the 10th PZPR Congress decisions in the areas of the agro-industrial complex. The successful development of fruitful cooperation between the USSR and the PPR in agriculture and the food industry was noted. Attention was drawn to the great potential for further developing joint scientific research and direct ties between industries, farms, and enterprises of the USSR and the PPR.

Polish Media Covers Visit

For Polish media coverage of the visit to Poland by Viktor Nikonov, Politburo member and CPSU Central Committee secretary, including talks with Zbigniew Michalek, PZPR Central Committee Politburo member and Central Committee secretary, see the Poland section of the 17th July East Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

SHALAYEV TALKS WITH VACATIONING PPR UNION HEAD

PM161009 Moscow TRUD in Russian 14 Jul 87 p 3

[Unattributed report: "Friendly Visit"]

[Text] At the AUCCTU's invitation, A. Miodowicz, chairman of the Polish National Trade Union Accord, and his wife have arrived on vacation in the Soviet Union.

AUCCTU Chairman S.A. Shalayev and A. Miodowicz have had a conversation which took place in a warm, friendly atmosphere. The sides exchanged information on the main avenues of the Soviet and Polish trade unions' activity at the present stage. There was also an examination of topical problems of mutual interest relating to the international trade union movement.

During his stay in the USSR the Polish National Trade Union Accord chairman will visit Leningrad and the Crimea.

BIRYUKOVA DISCUSSES CPSU-BCP TIES WITH ZHIVKOV

LD162010 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1830 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Todor Zhivkov, BCP Central Committee general secretary and Bulgarian State Council chairman, today received CPSU Central Committee Secretary A.P. Biryukova who is leading a CPSU delegation in Sofia. The issues of deepening comprehensive links between the Soviet Union and Bulgaria following from the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the 13th BCP Congress and from the subsequent plenums of the Central Committee of the fraternal parties were examined during the conversation.

The conversation passed in a warm and friendly atmosphere characteristic of CPSU-BCP relations.

TERRORISTS ATTACK BULGARIAN TOURIST COMPLEX 9 JULY

PM140952 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Jul 87 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Unequivocal Assessment"]

[Text] Sofia, 11 Jul -- A terrorist act was perpetrated last Thursday [9 July] at the Bulgarian "Golden Sands" tourist complex near Varna. BTA reports that three Bulgarian citizens, having taken two children hostage, exploded grenades in front of a hotel injuring several people.

As an official Bulgarian Internal Affairs Ministry spokesman told journalists, after many hours of fruitless talks and refusing to surrender, the criminals were rendered harmless and the children were rescued. The terrorists had committed grave crimes in the past. Their actions -- taking children hostage and an attempt on people's lives -- merit an unequivocal assessment, the Internal Affairs Ministry spokesman stated. Bulgaria resolutely condemns terrorism in any form, whatever the motives or objectives.

MOGILNICHENKO LEADS DELEGATION TO GDR 6-10 JULY

PM151516 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Jul 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Interparty Ties"]

[Text] Berlin, 11 Jul -- Under the plan for CPSU-SED interparty ties, a delegation of CPSU party workers headed by K.N. Mogilnichenko, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Organizational Party Work Department, was in the GDR 6 through 10 July.

The delegation familiarized itself with the SED's experience of organizational party work. It had talks at the SED Central Committee and visited the bezirk committee and a number of industrial and agricultural enterprises in Erfurt Bezirk.

The delegation was received by H. Dohlus, Politburo member and secretary of the SED Central Committee.

ROMANIAN JOURNALIST VIEWS EXPANDING SOVIET TIES

PM071505 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Jul 87 First Edition p 4

[Article by Nicolae Dragos, first deputy chief editor of SCINTEIA, under the rubric "Foreign Journalists' Rostrum": "Facets of Cooperation"]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] For more than 40 years Romania has been firmly and purposefuly striding down the socialist road. Our relations of friendship and cooperation based on full equality, the principles of independence and national sovereignty, noninterference in internal affairs, mutual advantage, and internationalist solidarity have been developing steadily.

Economic cooperation to benefit both countries' all-round progress has a priority role in relations. It is well known that the Soviet Union invariably occupies the leading position in Romania's foreign economic ties and in recent years its proportion in those ties has substantially increased. The Long-Term Program for the Development of Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation Between the USSR and Romania Through the Year 2000 signed by Comrades N. Ceausescu and M.S. Gorbachev last year has become an important lever in ensuring this growth. At their May meeting in Bucharest both leaders advocated implementing more vigorous, purposeful steps to implement this program.

Together with the strengthening of economic ties, cooperation is gaining momentum in culture and the arts. Exchanges of experience along party and state lines and between social and mass organizations -- in short, in the most varied spheres of building a new society -- are expanding. Cooperation in the international arena is of exceptional importance for consolidating feelings of friendship between our parties and peoples. Romania and the Soviet Union closely collaborate for the sake of increasing the contribution made by the socialist countries and all peace-loving, progressive, and democratic forces to resolving mankind's urgent problems and building a world without wars or weapons. The USSR's peace initiatves, whose lofty humanitarian aims are worthy of a most constructive response, have met with an extensive nationwide response and support in the Republic, since they open up the way toward the triumph of reason and life on the planet.

Our cooperation has clear and inspiring prospects. The Romanian people are following with interest the profound changes taking place in Soviet society and the course of the fraternal CPSU expressed at its recent Central Committee Plenum, which will help to reveal socialism's creative potential.

We are confident that the friendship between the RCP and the CPSU and summit meetings have been and remain a decisive guarantee of the constant development and deepening of Romanian-Soviet relations. The talks between N. Ceausescu and M.S. Gorbachev and the agreements reached at these meetings are having a profound impact on the entire range of Romanian-Soviet relations and are stimulating our countries' progressive development.

Our friendship, which is strengthening with every passing day, is embodied in our everyday activity. It is illustrated by the tankers for the Caspian which I saw on the Turnu-Severin wharf, and by the ships visiting Constanta with industrial cargo from your country. It is illustrated by the many books, which in the libraries and bookstores of our cities provide Romanian translations of Soviet and Russian literature. It is illustrated by the Soviet films shown in our theaters and by the success of reciprocal tours by famous theaters and groups...

Yes, there is a great deal of convincing evidence and examples of dynamic and fruitful cooperation. Tomorrow there could be even more. The important and principled accords reached by Comrades N. Ceausescu and M.S. Gorbachev during their recent summit guarantee that.

PUBLIC FETE MARKS JOINT ROMANIAN TREATY ANNIVERSARY

PM121057 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Jul 87 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Dedicated to the Anniversary"]

[Text] A public assembly took place in Moscow on 8 July, dedicated to the 17th anniversary of the Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance between the USSR and Romania.

The speakers observed that the treaty had opened up wide possibilities for further developing multifaceted bilateral links.

It was stressed that the friendship and cooperation between the CPSU and the RCP and summit meetings have been and remain the decisive guarantee of fruitful Soviet-Romanian relations. In this connection, the significance of M.S. Gorbachev recent visit to Romania and his talks with N. Ceausescu was pointed out.

N.M. Ion, Romanian ambassador to the USSR, took part in the meeting.

CPSU, LCY DELEGATES COMMENT ON RECONSTRUCTION TALKS

PM091531 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Jul 87 Second Edition p 4

[Unattributed report: "Scientists' Dialogue"]

[Text] CPSU and LCY Representatives have held party expert consultations on the subject of "Socialism and Democracy" at the CPSU Central Committee Academy of Social Sciences. Participants on the Soviet side were D.A. Kerimov, USSR Academy of Sciences corresponding member; Doctor of Historical Sciences A.V. Dmitriyev; Doctor of Philosophical Sciences A.P. Butenko; and Doctor of juridical Sciences B.N. Topornin. [paragraph continues]

On the Yugoslav side were Professors B. Caratan (member of the League of Communists of Croatia Central Committee International Cooperation Commission); M. Pajvancic (director of the League of Communists of Vojvodina Provincial Committee Marxist Center); F. Muhic (chairman of the League of Communists of Bosnia-Hercegovina Central Committee Ideological Work Commission); and S. Skaric (member of the League of Communists of Macedonia Central Committee Presidium).

After the consultations ended, our correspodnent asked the delegation leaders to comment on the results of the experts' meeting.

"The meeting was extremely useful," Professor B. Caratan said. "This is a successful form of cooperation between our parties. Such meetings made it possible to exchange opinions, obtain fuller information, and supplement what we can learn from scientific literature and periodicals. Without lively conversation, debate, and discussion it is impossible to understand the essence of problems and see them the way the other side sees them. Such meetings are also important because very difficult tasks face socialism today.

"I believe that socialist theory must investigate both positive and negative aspects, because this is the only way to understand socialism's contemporary problems. And in this sense such meetings really can help to explain what now faces the forces of socialism throughout the world. Of course, this assumes special significance when the conversation turns to the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia today. Restructuring is taking place in the USSR, while Yugoslav society is faced with grave economic problems and the need to reconstruct the political system.

"At first sight the impression is created that we do not have problems in common. However, on more detailed examination we realize that we are, in point of fact, talking about the same questions, only manifested, it is true, in different forms. And, of course, Soviet society and Yugoslav society are at different levels in solving them. But, I repeat: These are in point of fact analogous knots of problems.

"Restructuring in the Soviet Union can mean a certain incentive, stimulus, and boost for solving Yugoslav problems, and vice versa. We in Yugoslavia see the USSR vigorously seeking certain solutions, and this means that we are not alone in our search for new paths.

"It must also be said -- and it is particularly pleasant to point this out -- that our meeting took place in an atmosphere of trust, sincerity, and understanding and was not complicated by any negative political aspects."

"The common nature of the principles of socialist building does not rule out but, on the contrary, presupposes diversity of the forms, means, and methods of this building," D. Kerimov, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, pointed out. "Precisely this determines the significance of the free and frank exchange of opinions reflecting the uniqueness of each country's practical experience. Under modern conditions, when cooperation is strengthening between our parties, states, and peoples and scientific, technical, economic, and cultural ties are deepening between the USSR and the SFRY, the value of this exchange of opinions is increasing sharply.

"These consultations elicit satisfaction because they were of a businesslike and constructive nature. It is important to emphasize that the meeting was held at a crucial historical time, when our countries are implementing earnest transformations aimed at realizing socialism's advantages, revealing and utilizing the tremendous potential of these advantages in the people's interests, and eliminating everthing that slows down the process of socialist building.

"A wide range of questions was examined: restructuring of the Soviet and Yugoslav economic and political mechanisms; developing socialist statehood, democracy, and the people's self-management; and the role of the CPSU and the LCY in improving the socialist social system.

"Democratization and the development of self-management are an effective means of renewing all spheres of social life. This device has great potential in restructuring the economy. In this sphere enterprises and associations are switching to work under conditions of full economic accountability [khozraschet] and self-financing -- which is creating the necessary economic base for the working people's real and effective participation in production affairs.

"This meeting of Soviet and Yugoslav social scientists has elicited our profound satisfaction. The similarity of the theoretical and practical problems that arise in developing socialist society at the contemporary stage was revealed during the discussion. Of course, it would be strange if all the participants in the discussion held the very same views on all questions. The atmosphere of a creative, comradely, and frank exchange of opinions helped to formulate ideas on specific ways and means of renewal in economic, social, and political life with due regard for each country's specific conditions.

"Both sides reached the conclusion that it would be expedient to pursue similar measures regularly in the future. Agreement was reached to devote the next meeting to a discussion of the subject 'The State and Self-Management in Socialist Society.'"

KOSOVO 'ALBANIZATION' CREATES TENSE SITUATION

LD162154 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1645 GMT 16 Jul 87

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Viktor Levin]

[Text] Two important political events occured in Yugoslavia over the last 2 weeks: the LCY Central committee plenum and the Serbian LC Central Committee plenum. The two plenums were dedicated to the same issue: the situation in the Autonomous Region of Kosovo. Together with inflation, the situation in Kosovo is now perhaps the most acute all-Yugoslav problem. I will ask Aleksandr Shakin, our correspondent in Yugoslavia, to speak about this in greater detail.

[Shakin] According to the Constitution, Kosovo, as an autonomous region, is a part of Serbia. Basically, it is Albanians who live in this region in the south of the country. However, historically, the noticeable part of the population comprises representatives of the neighboring peoples -- the Serbs and the Montenegrins. Nationalistic Albanian moods have intensified here in recent years. Unrest flared up in Kosovo in 1981 when the nationalists took to the streets.

And now, 6 years later, the situation in the region continues to be tense. Relations among the nationalities have been severely damaged. Under the slogan: For an ethnically pure Kosovo, the Albanian nationalists are forcing Serbs and Montenegrins to leave their native places by using all possible means, right up to crude pressure. Since 1981 more than 22,000 representatives of these two peoples were forced to leave here. Along with the people, the chauvinists want to banish the Serbian language too; from the names of towns and villages, from school textbooks, and from administrative use. This is how the total Albanization of the region is being prepared.

The situation is becoming complicated by the fact that all this is happening against the background of Kosovo's general economic and social backwardness. This is the most underdeveloped region of the country. The standard of living here is only just reaching 30 percent of the average Yugoslav standard of living. The region has the highest level of unemployment. The recent party plenums noted that Kosovo's problems are seriously threatening the stability of Yugoslavia as a socialist federation.

However, unlike the preceding discussions, which basically noted the complexity of the situation that had arisen, this time a whole number of specific measures on normalizing the situation had been worked out. It was proposed to resolutely change the economic structure and investment policy and to bring production capacities into operation. The party set the task to reinstate law and order in the region in all bodies of authority, to ensure equal rights for the languages, and to create conditions for the return to their native places of the Serbs and Montenegrins. Those who were to specifically carry out these tasks were named: the party, state, and public bodies. The time was also specified: by the fall or at the latest by the end of the year. However, at the same time everybody realizes that immensely difficult work lies ahead of them.

PRAVDA REPORTS SFRY AIDS FIGURES, TREATMENT

PM140956 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Jul 87 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent V. Sharov report under the rubric "Doctors Sound the Alarm": "How Many AIDS Patients"]

[Text] Belgrade, 11 July -- The first news stunned not only the specialists. At a session of the Belgrade City Health Committee one of the professors who spoke reported that in the capital's Vracar commune 27 children whose parents are drug addicts are infected with the AIDS virus. A query from WHO followed speedily: Is there no mistake here? After a new check, the number of children carrying the virus fell to six. But who can say that that is not many?

SFRY doctors are sounding the alarm: the serious and as yet incurable disease recorded in the United States in 1981 that causes a severe weakening of immunity in man is attacking Yugoslavia, too. Here are the official statistics from the Federal Committee for Labor, Health, and Social Security: In the country the blood of 5,624 people belonging to high-risk groups of the population has been studied. The AIDS virus was found in 698 of them. Of these, 271 cases are in Belgrade. Special scientific and treatment centers have recently been opened in Yugoslavia, and are working on prevention and treatment of the disease. Services are operating to provide urgent help for anyone who wants to have his blood analyzed without revealing his name. The mass media have become actively involved in health propaganda. A few days ago additional measures were adopted by the Serbian Republican Health Committee, which has substantially widened the range of people obliged to undergo a test for the AIDS virus.

PROTEST LODGED WITH UK ON MISSILES SUPPLIED TO DRA

LD071148 Moscow TASS in English 1130 GMT 7 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow July 7 TASS -- The following representation was made to the ambassador of the United Kingdom to the USSR in the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Monday.

The attention of the British side has been repeatedly drawn to possible most serious consequences of the supply of the newest weapons, including the Blowpipe anti-aircraft systems, to Afghan groups fighting against the legitimate government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

However, judging by reports in the British press, the British authorities did not take steps to stop the supply of weapons to the above-mentioned groups, and, besides, embarked upon the road of sending British instructors to train the counterrevolutionaries in handling the weapons.

Moreover, Foreign Secretary Geoffrey Howe and Minister of State Linda Chalker in their speeches in Parliament on June 26, this year, virtually admitted the government's involvement in such deliveries and even tried to justify them.

Thereby Britain practices complicity in the undeclared war against the people of Afghanistan, and performs actions aimed at undermining the national reconciliation process in that country.

The extremely dangerous consequences of the transfer of the up-to-date anti-aircraft missile systems to the groups which use them against civilian planes, too, are obvious.

This poses quite a serious threat to the safety of international civil aviation both in the air space of Afghanistan and in other parts of the world.

Civilians may fall victim to such policy of the British authorities, as has already been the case with the use of this type of weapons by the counterrevolutionaries.

The situation which is taking shape cannot but give rise to serious concern in the Soviet Union. Responsibility for its consequences and for a possible loss of life also rests with London.

U.S., UK MISSILE SUPPLIES SUPPORT 'BANDITS'

LD092011 Moscow TASS in English 1842 GMT 9 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow July 9 TASS -- Commentator Leonid Ponomarev writes:

By supplying the Afghan counter-revolutionaries with modern armaments, including "Blowpipe" ground-to-air systems, Britain thereby helps the undeclared war against the people of Afghanistan.

The presentation made on this subject by the USSR Foreign Ministry on Tuesday draws attention to the possibility of "the most serious consequences" of such arms deliveries to the bandit formations conducting a struggle against the lawful government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. And how did London react? It pretended that references were made only to "newspaper reports" and that British officials had nothing to say on the matter. But there is what to say. [sentence as received] It is only that they in London think they can get off by keeping mum.

The London newspaper THE INDEPENDENT reported last month that the United States and Britain cooperate in fulfilling a secret plan of supply the Afghan counter-revolutionaries with British "Blowpipe" antiaircraft missiles that are an analogue of the American "Stinger" missiles which are also supplies to the Afghan terrorists.

London could not refute the newspaper's story because it named the exact address of the manufacturer of the "Blowpipe" missiles for delivery to the Afghan counter-revolutionaries. This is the "Short Brothers Ltd" Company in Belfast, Northern Ireland. The British Government is its owner. Maybe the newspaper is falsely accusing its government? Nothing of the sort. Already in 1985 "Short Brothers Ltd" got its first order for about 300 antiaircraft missiles and a certain number of launchers for delivery to the Afghan Dushmans, as the counter-revolutionaries are also called.

And Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe was virtually half a step from officially admitting the fact that London supplies the Afghan terrorists with arms when he pathetically exclaimed in Parliament on June 26 that British parliamentarians should thank providence that the most up-to-date arms are reaching the Dushmans. Indeed, they are reaching them. This is evidenced by reports from Kabul that by means of the "Stingers" they get from Washington and the British "Blowpipes" the Afghan counter-revolutionaries are shooting down peaceful passenger planes. The latest victims of such a terrorist act were the 53 passengers, among them children of the AN-26 plane that was downed by a ground-to-air missile near Kandahar.

As recently as the beginning of this week the DRA's Armed Forces smashed a band in Shigal District, Kunar Province, and seized an arms storage of the counter-revolutionaries, including surface-to-surface missiles, while in the area of Pagman, near Kabul, they seized a missile launcher, recoilless guns and other weapons.

All these and other facts are well known to London. In the light of this the support given by it to the Afghan Dushmans amounts to a deliberate obstruction of a political settlement of the problem around Afghanistan.

Objective conditions for ending the undeclared war and normalising the situation now exist in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. The process of national reconciliation has spread virtually to all sections of the Afghan public but Washington and London are trying to impede this process. They clearly want a continuation of the bloodshed in Afghanistan. And responsibility for this rests both with the United States and Britain.

BRITAIN CARRIES OUT NUCLEAR TEST IN NEVADA

LD170340 Moscow TASS in English 0338 GMT 17 Jul 87

[Text] London July 17 TASS -- Britain conducted a nuclear test at the U.S. test site in the Nevada desert Thursday.

Britain's Ministry of Defence said the explosion, with a yield of between 20 and 150 kilotons, was carried out at the request of the British Government under the cooperation agreement between London and Washington, in effect since 1958.

The close cooperation between the United States and Britain in upgrading nuclear weapons is part of their "special relations."

The British nuclear test was described here as a sort of "symbolic salute" to Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher who arrives in Washington today for talks with President Ronald Reagan.

SPAIN ACCEDES TO TREATY ON SEABED WEAPONS

LD151808 Moscow TASS in English 1723 GMT 15 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow July 15 (TASS) -- Jose Cuenca, Spanish ambassador to the Soviet Union, today deposited with the Soviet Government the document on Spain's accession to the Treaty of the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor and in the Subsoil Thereof.

The Treaty was signed on February 11, 1971.

KORNILOV ADDRESSES FRENCH COMMENTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS

LD161034 Moscow TASS in English 1013 GMT 16 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow July 16 TASS -- By TASS political news analyst Yuriy Kornilov:

The deeper the process of democratization in the U.S.S.R., the stronger the roots of openness in our country the greater the temptation overwhelming certain quarters in the West to tarnish socialism and cast aspersions on the changes in the Soviet Union. But since enemies of socialism have no facts or arguments of any kind they have recourse to inventions, insinuations and vicious lies.

One recent example of that is a statement made in Paris by Claude Malhuret, France's minister of state attached to the prime minister in charge of human rights. He said he was viewing the developments in the Soviet Union "more and more critically."

"Jews and Christians in the U.S.S.R. are ever more often becoming targets of repression," he charged.

After M. Malhuret treated his listeners to the invention of that kind it must have occured to him: Why speak only of "repressed Jews and Christians"? Since I'm telling stories anyway I should make them really big.

So he went on to say that he had studied the entire "Soviet strategy" in the field of human rights and even managed to divide some anonymous "Soviet dissidents" into classes.

This strategy, Malhuret declared, "boils down to a retail release of well known dissidents and a wholesale imprisonment of less prominent ones."

Here is a patent example of nonsense one can emit if one is looking at the Soviet Union from Paris through a prism of anti-Sovietism.

It is indicative that he was not addressing his fellow countrymen. According to AFP news agency, M. Malhuret was exercising in the art story-telling at a luncheon and discussion organized by the Anglo-American Press Association. [sentence as received]

Taking into account the character of his audience one can say with good reason: If human rights were really a matter of such concern to Malhuret there was absolutely no need to seek human violations in the East; he could amass a great number of facts on that score -- and really hard facts, not some invented ones -- in those very "democratic nations" which his listeners represent in Paris.

Why not remind them, for instance, that not too may years ago, Andrew Young who was the U.S. representative to the United Nations at that time, stated there were thousands of political prisoners in the United States, and that, according to that same American press, their number has grown further by now? Why not remind them of numerous instances of arrests and maltreatment of anti-war campaigners in Britain or of the three million police files on "dissidents" in that country?

Perhaps Malhuret simply does not know all that? But he surely knows (and could have told his audience about) the human rights situation in France where Paris alone has 50,000 homeless, where millions of people are deprived of the right to work, eduation and welfare.

Mr Malhuret, however, chose to keep silent about that. Judging from everything M. Malhuret, although he is calling himself minister of state in charge of human rights, is by no means concerned with human rights. His sole concern is how to please overseas connoisseirs of anti-Soviet sensations with products of his unbridled and delirious fantasy. So there is little wonder that he is retailing and wholesaling vicious lies.

PRESIDIUM, ITALIAN PRESIDENT EXCHANGE GREETINGS

LD301623 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1506 GMT 30 Jun 87

[Text] Moscow, 30 Jun (TASS) -- The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has sent a telegram to Francisco Cossiga, president of the Italian republic, on the occasion of the country's national holiday, Republic Day. The message conveyed to him and through him to the friendly Italian people sincere congratulations and wishes for happiness and prosperity.

The fruitful development of Soviet-Italian relations, the telegram notes, meets the interests of the peoples of the two countries and is an important factor in the improvement of the situation on the European continent and in the world. The Soviet Union is ready to make joint efforts with Italy in favor of detente, elimination of the nuclear threat, and the strengthening of universal security.

In a reply message F. Cossiga, president of the Italian republic, expressed cordial thanks for the kind greetings and conveyed good wishes and prosperity to the friendly Soviet people.

The telegram from F. Cossiga expresses hope that relations between Italy and the USSR will continue to develop harmoniously for the benefit of strengthening peace and accord in the whole world.

ITALIAN COMMUNISTS VISIT LENINGRAD, ESTONIA

PM101302 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Jul 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Italian Communists in the USSR"]

[Text] Under the plan for party exchange between the CPSU and the Italian Communist Party (PCI), a delegation of PCI federation secretaries headed by P. Cantelli, member of the PCI Central Committee and first secretary of the Florence PCI Federation, was in the Soviet Union 1 through 9 July.

The Italian Communists visited Moscow, the Estonian SSR, and Leningrad. The delegation had meetings and talks at the CPSU Central Committee Economic and International Departments, the Estonian Communist Party Central Committee, and Leningrad CPSU Obkom, visited a number of industrial enterprises and a kolkhoz, and took part in a "roundtable" at the CPSU Central Committee Social Sciences Academy.

The Italian comrades were briefed on the results of the CPSU Central Committee June (1987) Plenum and familiarized themselves with the course of the restructuring of the economic management structure in the USSR, including the work at republican and oblast levels.

ITALIANS RECEIVED AT USSR PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE

PM131525 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Jul 87 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Investigation Under Way"]

[Text] In recent months new facts have come to light about Hitlerites' crimes on Lvov soil, including their mass shooting of Italian servicemen in 1943.

A delegation headed by T. Bisagno, Italian deputy defense minister, visiting the Soviet Union in connection with the investigation into this crime, has been received at the USSR Prosecutor's Office. There was a broad and open [otkrytyy] exchange of opinions regarding the progress of the investigation. S. Romano, the Italian ambassador to the USSR, took part in the conversation.

The Italian delegation departed for Lvov 10 July.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON MEXICAN DELEGATION'S VISIT

Senator Riva Palacio Comments

PA141659 Mexico City EL NACIONAL in Spanish 8 Jul 87 p 2

[Text] Moscow, 7 Jul -- Mexico and the Soviet Union understand their agreements and differences very well. However, they do not hamper their good relations because they are based on respect and understanding of these differences.

Antonio Riva Palacio, chairman of the Senate Grand Commission, made the statement here.

Talking at the Supreme Soviet, in the Kremlin, Riva Palacio, who headed the Mexican delegation that attended the first interparliamentary meeting with the Soviet Union, added that the relations between the two nations show a desire for understanding and mutual cooperation.

For this reason, Mexico was the first country in the Western Hemisphere to recognize the Soviet state as a member of the international community.

He emphasized: "The Soviet people's will had been expressed and Mexico acted accordingly, foreign to traditionalist positions that often only covered up for interventionist intentions."

The Mexican Senate leader expressed hopes that the talks held with the Soviet parliamentarians will bear good fruit in making recommendations to the executive branches of their respective countries.

This weekend, the Mexican delegation left Moscow for Leningrad, where the delegation members held several meetings with local authorities and visited places of tourist interest.

In Moscow, they visited Lenin's mausoleum and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier before going to the building occupied by the Supreme Soviet in the Kremlin.

At the Supreme Soviet they were received by Avgust Voss, its top leader [as published], who explained how it works. Later, the Mexicans met with Roal'd Sagdeyev of the Academy of Sciences USSR, an expert in modern weapons, who said that he opposes the militarization of outer space.

The scientist said that his country has proposed the use of outer space for the development of poor nations.

He said that the [Soviet] satellites [los aparatos de colocacion orbital) are at the disposal of any nation that needs for free, but only if they are used for nonmilitary purposes.

He also proposed joint space research projects and recalled that October will mark the 30th anniversary of the launching of the first man-made spacecraft.

Responding to these remarks, Senator Socorro Dias Palacios stressed that Mexico and the Soviet Union are in substantial agreement about the disarmament issue.

She added that the Soviet and Mexican peoples and governments agree on fighting the arms race and, particularly, its spread to outer space.

IZVESTIYA Reports on Visit

PM141615 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Jul 87 Morning Edition p 4

[Unattributed report: "On the Visit to the Soviet Union by a Delegation of the National Congress of the United States of Mexico"]

[Text] A delegation of Mexico's National Congress headed by Senator A. Riva Palacio, chairman of the Grand Commission of the Senate and of the Standing Commission of Congress, paid an official visit to the Soviet Union at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet 2-9 July 1987. The delegation consists of Senators R. Salinas Losano, S. Diaz Palacios, and J. Munoz Mosqueda; and Deputies J. Siller Rojas, M. Murillo Morales, and A. Ualey [as published] Martinez.

In addition to Moscow, the Mexican parliamentarians also visited Leningrad. A conversation was held at the Leningrad Gorispolkom on the activity of soviets of people's deputies aimed at the city's socioeconomic and cultural development under the conditions of restructuring now being implemented in the Soviet Union. The parliamentarians visited industrial and agricultural enterprises and toured historical and cultural sights.

The Mexican parliamentary delegation was received by A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Meetings and conversations took place with Soviet of Nationalities Chairman A.E. Voss and with chairmen and members of permanent commissions of the USSR Supreme Soviet chambers.

The Mexican delegation was briefed in detail on the work being done in the Soviet Union to fulfill the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the CPSU Central Committee January and June Plenums aimed at the acceleration of socioeconomic development, the fundamental restructuring of the country's economic management, and the further democratization of Soviet society.

The Mexican parliamentarians' attention was drawn to the international aspects of restructuring, which provides vivid proof of the Soviet Union's peaceful aspirations and the USSR's principled commitment to the cause of peaceful coexistance, progress, and equal cooperation between states.

During the exchange of opinions on key international problems the parliamentarians noted with gratification the coincidence or proximity of the positions held by the USSR and Mexico on key questions of war and peace.

It was emphasized by both sides that it is impermissible to solve the task of preserving the strengthening peace on the basis of the possession of nuclear weapons. The strategy of nuclear deterrence is dangerous in itself, runs contrary to the logic of the humanitarian philosophy of peace and development, and contradicts the very essence of civilization. The delegations expressed commitment to the principles of building a nuclear-free and nonviolent world. It was emphasized in this context that parliamentarians can and must make their contribution to intensified collective efforts whose purpose is to assist the democratization and humanization of international relations and the growth of trust and mutual understanding between states for the purpose of solving the problems of security and world development.

The parliamentarians from the two countries resolutely spoke out against the plans to transfer the arms race to outer space, in favor of the strengthening of existing international mechanisms and primarily the ABM Treaty regime, and in favor of the peaceful use of outer space.

The Mexican parliamentarians noted that the Soviet proposals for the elimination of nuclear arms are being welcomed with approval. In this context the sides stressed that particular importance for the strengthening of peace is attached to the Soviet proposals for the elimination of medium-range missiles and other nuclear means in Europe; the signing of an accord on medium-range missiles would be a practical step toward the common goal -- the complete elimination of nuclear arms.

The participants in the meetings spoke in favor of the swiftest possible conclusion of a treaty on the complete banning of nuclear weapons tests, the strengthening of international mechanisms to ban and eliminate chemical and bacteriological weapons, and the establishment of an international regime aimed at the development of nuclear power engineering for peaceful purposes.

The parliamentarians noted with gratification the growing role of Latin American countries in international affairs and their constructive contribution to the preservation and strengthening of peace and to the efforts to consolidate international law and order and trust and cooperation between states.

Expressing serious concern over the existence of seats of tension and conflicts in various parts of the world, both countries' parliamentarians expressed resolute support for the efforts by the Contadora Group and its Support Group aimed at a fair, balanced, and lasting settlement of conflicts in Central America via talks, since this is a demand by all Latin Americans supported by Central American countries and based on the principles of noninterference in states' internal affairs, the peoples' self-determination, the peaceful solution of disputes, and cooperation in the interests of development. Both sides pointed out that the present situation in Central America is the consequence of the serious economic backwardness of the region's countries, which engenders injustice and scandalous inequality, and they rejected attempts to present this situation as result of the so-called "East-West confrontation."

They stressed the great importance of the collective quest for ways for the peaceful solution of conflict situations in the world such as the seats of tension in the Near and Middle East and some Asian and African countries.

The Soviet and Mexican parliamentarians condemned the use of force to achieve political goals, as well as all forms of terrorism.

The USSR Supreme Soviet deputies expressed support for the desire of Latin American states to achieve the consolidation of Latin America's nuclear-free status (the Tatelolco Treaty). Both sides supported the idea of proclaiming the South Atlantic a zone of peace and cooperation.

The parliamentarians of the Soviet Union and Mexico noted that, in the contemporary international situation, particular importance is attached to the normalization of international economic relations, the affirmation of equal and totally discrimination-free trade, economic, scientific, and technical ties between countries, the establishment of a fair and equal world economic order, the ensuring of states' economic security, and the political solution of the problem of the developing countries' external debt.

The parliamentarians of both countries believe that disarmament and development are organically interlinked with progress and mankind's survival, and they favor the convening of an international conference on this problem under UN auspices in the fall of this year.

The Mexican parliamentarians confirmed their commitment to the principles of Mexico's foreign policy, which are unanimously supported by the whole people and aim to defend national sovereignty and ensure peace and coexistence with all countries. They spoke of various aspects of their government's foreign policy activity, and especially of the efforts made by President M. de la Madrid within the framework of the six-states group for ensuring universal peace and strengthening international security. The Soviet parliamentarians expressed support for these countries' peaceful efforts.

The guests also touched on several aspects of the work of Mexico's National Congress to solve political and socioeconomic problems.

Mutual satisfaction was expressed with the state of Soviet-Mexican ties, which are an example of mutually advantageous cooperation between states with different socioeconomic systems. In this context both sides declared their interest in and readiness to contribute to the further stepping up of contacts between the two countries and the development of bilateral ties.

The representatives of the two countries' parliaments concluded that contracts between the USSR Supreme Soviet and Mexico's National Congress make a useful contribution to the cause of strengthening mutual understanding, trust, friendship, and cooperation between the two countries, and advocated their deepening and multifaceted development.

The Mexican parliamentary delegation expressed gratitude to the USSR Supreme Soviet for the cordial and warm hospitality accorded to it by the Soviet people and government, as well as confidence that the next meeting between parliamentarians from the two countries will be held in Mexico.

PRAVDA CARRIES CPSU RESOLUTION ON ECOLOGY

PM161124 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Jul 87 Second Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "At the CPSU Central Committee: 'On the Ecological Situation in a Number of Regions and Industrial Centers of the Country'"]

[Text] In the resolution adopted on this question, the CPSU Central Committee notes that many ministries and departments and local party, Soviet, economic, and trade union organs are not adopting resolute measures to ensure conservation in the environment. The ecological situation is deteriorating in certain regions of the country.

The leaders of a number of sectors, and first and foremost the USSR Ministry of Power and Electrification, the USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy, the USSR Ministry of Chemical Industry, the USSR Ministry of Nonferrous Metallurgy, the USSR Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry, the USSR Ministry for Mineral Fertilizer Production, and certain others, are not ensuring the consistent and persistent implementation at enterprises under their jurisdiction of organizational and technical measures to prevent environmental pollution, and do not attach due significance to stepping up operations to create and introduce waste-free technologies and ensure the comprehensive use of raw materials and the utilization of production waste. The collectives of enterprises and scientific research and design organizations and the engineering and technical community are poorly oriented toward resolving these tasks.

The USSR Gosplan, ministries, and departments continue to scatter capital investments on the construction of numerous nature conservation projects and tolerate a low rate of construction, and as a result the funds spent on these purposes do not yield the proper return.

The USSR State Committee for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Control, the USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources, the USSR Ministry of Health, and the trade unions' technical inspectorates of labor do not show a sufficiently persistent and principled approach in cutting short violations of production discipline, and not infrequently agree to the operation of projects with deviations from the design decisions and permit parallelism in work.

It was noted that certain party, soviet, and trade union organizations are still only slowly restructuring their work int he light of the demands of the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum, do not make strict demands on enterprise leaders who fail to show zeal in fulfilling nature conservation measures, do not do the necessary educational work in the labor collectives to promote compliance with production technology, and do not confront ministries and departments urgently with questions of eliminating the shortcomings which exist in this matter.

Deeming the gross violations of the norms of the ecological situation which have occurred in a number of regions and industrial centers of the country to be absolutely intolerable, the CPSU Central Committee has demanded that the leaders of ministries and departments, union and autonomous republic Councils of Ministers, and oblast and kray Soviets of people's deputies change their attitude to these questions and considerably step up work on the prompt and full resolution of tasks connected with cleaning up the ecology.

The resolution stresses that the leaders of ministries and departments are personally responsible for the implementation of effective, comprehensive measures to prevent environmental pollution and ensure the observance of discipline in fulfilling the targets provided for in CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolutions on this problem.

The collegiums of ministries and ministers and enterprise leaders personally are instructed to impose the strictest order regarding compliance with technological discipline in production. With a view to ensuring the more efficient use of dust and gas installations and purification systems, their technical condition is to be reviewed and measures are to be adopted to eliminate shortcomings. The creation of sanitary protection zones at enterprises is to be accelerated.

The CPSU Central Committee instructed the USSR Gosplan, ministries, and departments to concentrate capital investments first and foremost on the construction of those projects which are ecologically most important, and to ensure their accelerated construction. An expert study of the quality of the designs of production facilities being constructed is to be carried out in a short space of time, and if necessary measures are to be adopted to bring them into line with ecological norms.

The USSR State Committee for Science and Technology, the USSR Academy of Sciences, and ministries and departments are given the task of channeling the efforts of sector and academy science into the creation and speediest introduction into production of waste-free manufacturing processes and the development of designs and equipment which ensure a sharp reduction in discharges of harmful substances into the atmosphere and water sources.

It is deemed necessary that the USSR Gosplan, the USSR State Committee for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Control, and the USSR Council of Ministers Bureau for Machine Building submit to the USSR Council of Ministers within a 2-month period proposals for organizing an expert study of the production of machine building output with a view to ensuring indicators for the operation of such output which do not exceed the limits set for permissible concentrations of harmful substances. The responsibility of machine building ministries in this matter is to be stepped up.

Law enforcement organs are instructed to carry out more principled, uncompromising work to stop violations of manufacturing processes and production systems leading to pollution of the atmosphere and water sources.

The CPSU Central Committee instructed union republic Communist Party Central Committees and kraykoms and obkoms to widely and comprehensively launch work to radically improve the ecological situation in the regions and to regard the resolution of this task as a nationwide cause of great political significance. The activity of primary party organizations and soviet, trade union, and Komsomol organs is to be stepped up and the public and the labor collectives are to be brought in.

The USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting and the editorial offices of central, sector, and local newspapers are instructed to ensure that Soviet people are given objective and timely information on measures adopted by the party and government to clean up the environment, more widely to propagandize leading experience of work in this direction, and to expose the existing shortcomings.

BIRYUKOVA CRITICIZES AZERBAIJAN ECONOMIC FAILINGS

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[AZERINFORM account of "Speech by A.P. Biryukova, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee," at 13 June meeting with the Azerbaijan SSR party and economic aktiv in Baku: "To Deepen Restructuring, To Enhance the People's Prosperity"]

[Text] Esteemed comrades!

First of all, allow me to cordially greet you on behalf of the CPSU Central Committee.

It is highly gratifying for me to take this opportunity to meet with Azerbaijan's party, soviet, and economic leaders in order to share my impressions of my visit to the republic and jointly discuss a number of questions concerning the republic party organization's work in implementing the 27th CPSU Congress decisions.

Today there can be only one main and determining criterion for assessing what has been done: The specific contribution made by each party organization, each labor collective, and each worker to the implementation of the course of acceleration and restructuring and the fulfillment of the 5-year plan targets. As M.S. Gorbachev emphasized in his speech to the 20th Komsomol Congress, to act, to act, and to act again -- this is the guarantee of success at the present stage. Fewer loud words and more practical actions that speak louder than words.

Why is the question posed in this way? Today, essentially no one needs to be convinced of the need for revolutionary transformations in all spheres of our society's life. A precise program for the restructuring of the economy, the social sphere, the political system, and the activity of party and public organizations and labor collectives has been elaborated on the initiative and under the leadership of the party. The overwhelming majority of the people have adopted this program as their own vital work and have fully and finally made their choice in favor of the restructuring course.

This is also confirmed by impressions from the visit to your republic. We have had meetings at factories and plants and at trade and service sphere enterprises, and conversations with workers, specialists, economic and soviet leaders, and party cadres. People's increased public activeness is visible everywhere, as is their desire to work better and more productively and to cast off as swiftly as possible everything that is alien to our system's nature. Workers are acquiring a growing awareness of being complete masters of their country.

Even though we may still not have achieved the qualitative breakthrough we are pursuing -- this will require some time -- changes of major political, spiritual, and moral importance are taking place and are there to be seen.

We perceive this as a major victory, as the main political result achieved in the 2 years since the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum which laid the foundations of our party's contemporary general line.

At the same time it would be a serious mistake to be satisfied with the achievements and to think that since everyone is in favor of restructuring, everything henceforth will progress automatically. The party and the CPSU Central Committee have learned well the lessons of the recent past, when it repeatedly happened that sound and correct decisions were not backed by practical actions and were simply not implemented. We wasted quite a few years on this.

This is why the CPSU Central Committee and the Central Committee Politburo tirelessly emphasize that the center of gravity of all party work must be shifted toward the implementation of decisions that have been adopted. This is where the fate of restructuring is being decided today. No concessions must be made on this vitally important question. Those who would like to replace restructuring by empty talk about it must be resolutely squeezed out.

What are the political and organizational tasks which are coming to the fore in this context?

First. The interests of restructuring persistently demand the broad and active involvement of the vast massses of workers in direct work in running the country. This indeed is the main substance of the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum decisions.

Consistent democratization is a pledge of society's political and moral health, a guarantee against the repetition of the mistakes and negative phenomena of the past, a catalyst of the living creativity of the masses which V.I. Lenin perceived as the decisive advantage of socialism. This is why, comrades, all of us without exception must not only learn the art of working and leading under conditions of deepening democracy but must also promote to the utmost the process of democratization. Efforts in the struggle against bureaucratism must not flag for a single moment, and the planned measures to develop all forms of representative and direct democracy, expand self-management, enhance the role of labor collectives, soviets, and public organizations, strengthen legality, and develop openness, criticism, and self-criticism must be persistently implemented.

We attach fundamental importance to the question of democratization, and this stance by the party and the CPSU Central Committee enjoys the people's ardent approval. And not just approval. Changes in the electoral system are still only in the stage of elaboration, the Law on the Socialist Enterprise has not yet been passed, but many party and public organizations, enterprises, and scientific and creative collectives are already electing their leaders in the new way. This is the workers decision. The CPSU Central Committee totally supports this intitiative.

Evidence of the swift emergency of an atmosphere of greater democratism in the country and the growing public activeness of citizens can also be seen in the election campaign for local soviets and people's judges. It has become a serious test for many leadership cadres and, to put it bluntly, by no means all of them have passed this test.

On the whole, the election campaign has revealed weaknesses in the political work of many party organizations and their adherence to old methods -- stage management, leadership by decree, and undisguised and at times gross "imposition" of candidates.

I think, comrades, that the conclusions are obvious. Anyone in this audience believing that the slogan "more democracy" is temporary and is put forth to mark time is profoundly mistaken. Openness, criticism, and democracy serve as levers for restructuring, and their absence would lead us back to stagnation.

Democratization makes much greater demands of the businesslike, political, and moral qualitities of leaders at all levels -- rayon, oblast, republic, and union. It becomes necessary to cast off habits acquired over the decades, to learn afresh on the march, to change methods. But it is impossible to manage otherwise. If today it may be difficult to lead without knowing how to work under conditions of deepening democracy, tomorrow it will be simply impossible.

And this is the premise from which the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Commitee, obkoms, gorkoms, and raykoms, and primary party organizations must proceed when organizing the political, ideological, and cadre backup for restructuring.

Second. The profound transformations in the economy which we have been implementing since the 27th CPSU Congress are also aimed at deepening democratism. The promotion of economic methods of leadership to the foreground, the transition to the new economic mechanism, self-financing, and self-capitalization, and the expansion of self-management in labor collectives have boosted the initiative and independence of the basic link in production -- the enterprise -- and have strengthened people's interest in the results of labor.

Without in any way exaggerating the achievements, it can be said that an overall improvement of the economic situation is under way and positive trends are gathering pace. Last year, for example, the rate of industrial growth was the highest in the last 9 years. The agro-industrial complex is developing steadily. The situation in industry, transport, and construction is being gradually rectified following the disruption which was allowed to occur at the beginning of the year.

At the same time we can all see that only the initial steps have been taken, and we must progress along the path of restructuring without slackening the pace.

The next CPSU Central Committee plenum, which will be held this month, will become an exceptionally important landmark along this path. As you know, the plenum will examine a package of questions concerning the restructuring of the management of the national economy. The main point here is to find the best possible correlations between the center and the local level, between the planned running of the economy and the independence of enterprises. To retain the centralized principle in solving strategic problems of the national economy and, at the same time, to relieve the local level, associations, and enterprises from excessive detailed regulation from above and provide room for the initiative and enterprise of labor collectives. To put it briefly, to complete the creation of a comprehensive system for the economy's management.

Third. Restructuring is a process. To hurry and want to achieve everything swiftly are as harmful here as the excessive tardiness, which at times conceals a rejection of the actual policy of renewal. The CPSU Central Committee believes that some questions must be resolved in the current 5-year plan period, and others in subsequent years.

I will say frankly that the CPSU Central Committee and the Politburo do not believe that final answers have been found to all the questions posed by life, and they realize that an exceptionally complex and responsible period lies ahead. It is quite probable that we will not be immediately successful in everything, that certain measures will fail to live up to the hopes placed on them.

It is well known, however, that mistakes are not made only by those who do nothing, who take the stance of a detached observer. People like that are not needed anywhere, and least of all among leadership cadres. They must be bluntly told: You either join in the work or get out of the way; do not obstruct.

It is the duty of Communists, and primarily of Communists in leadership positions, to do everything to ensure the unconditional fulfillment of everything that has been planned.

It is from this viewpoint that I would like to look at how the republic's economy is developing and how it is resolving one of the key tasks of the party's economic and social policy -- the satisfaction of people's needs for goods and services.

It is a pleasure to note the increased dynamism of the Azerbaijan SSR's economic development. During the first 5 months of this year the volume of industrial output increased by 4.3 percent compared with the corresponding period of last year, and this is one of the highest indicators among union republics. The 5-month plan for labor productivity growth was fulfilled.

Certain positive changes have also occurred in the agro-industrial sector. During the 1st year of the 5-year plan period agricultural output exceeded by almost 2 percent the average annual level in the 11th 5-Year Plan period. There have also been positive changes in livestock raising which, bluntly speaking, had been neglected in your republic for many years in succession.

Even so, however, you should not take reassurance from this slight improvement in the state of affairs. I think that you yourselves are well aware that there is still no reason to talk about profound restructuring or a fundamental breakthrough in the work of the republic's national economy.

The fulfillment of contractual commitments for output deliveries has deteriorated in comparison with last year. The 5-year plan in terms of this indicator was fulfilled only 98 percent, and 1 in every 4 associations and enterprises failed to cope with it.

Serious problems still remain in agricultural production. The development of horticulture and the production of hothouse and early vegetables lack the requisite stability. Only one-third of the meat production capacities created in livestock raising are being utilized, and meanwhile the republic is receiving subsidies for it from state funds. The consolidation of the feed base is progressing only slowly.

A considerable lag has been allowed to build up in the implementation of the key avenue of our economic strategy -- the acceleration of scientific and technical progress. There is systematic nonfulfillment of plans for science and technology, the assimilation of new-generation technologies, and the enhancement of the technical standard of production.

It is natural to ask: Given this state of affairs, how do you intend to scale the planned heights for production efficiency and output quality?

Many unsolved problems have accumulated in the social sphere. Only 20 percent of children attend preschool institutions. There are shortages of physicians, middle-level medical personnel, and hospital beds. Attendance at medical centers is 50 percent higher than the normative. There are serious shortcomings in the service sector for the population and trade. For years these shortcomings have not been eliminated but instead have worsened.

All this at times causes dissatisfaction and perturbs people.

You have opportunities to swiftly take a major step both in the economic and in the social spheres. Even in the short time that we have spent in the republic we have seen for ourselves and become convinced that Azerbaijan has at its disposal a powerful production, scientific, and technical potential, considerable labor resources, and skilled worker, engineering, technical, and management cadres.

Why are your affairs not progressing as well as they could and in line with the demands of the time? I think that the main reason is the adherence by a considerable proportion of leadership cadres to old-fashioned extensive methods. As in the past, many ministers and enterprise and association directors waste time and energy attempting to prove the unrealistic nature of targets and drumming up additional funds, resources, and quotas instead of firmly applying a line of intensification of production and quest for internal reserves.

The Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee and the republic government must organize matters in such a way as to ensure that the republic's economic and social development is effected primarily on an intensive basis. This requires the mobilization of long-term growth factors like the acceleration of scientific and technical progress, the fundamental improvement of output quality, the restructuring of the investment process, and the fuller utilization of existing potential.

And it is, of course, necessary to actively implement the strong social policy elaborated by the party and to persistently ensure that concern for man's well-being and for the enhancement of his living standard is constantly at the focus of attention of party, soviet, and economic organs.

Paramount importance in this regard attaches to the increasingly full supply of diverse goods and services to the market. The Comprehensive Program for the Development of Consumer Goods and the Services Sphere, which brings together the tasks of all sectors in the economy and of all regions in terms of increasing the output, extending the range, and improving the quality of goods and paid services, is subordinated to the carrying out of this task.

Today this problem has become even more acute in view of the fact that the retail commodity turnover plan has been systematically unfulfilled in the last few years, and a lag has been building up between targets and actual performance.

Azerbaijan has also failed to cope with the commodity turnover plan both last year and this year.

The shortage of commodity resources is one of the main causes. While the Comprehensive Program and the 5-year plan envisaged that output of nonfood consumer goods would develop faster than industry as a whole, the actual state of affairs was the exact opposite. [paragraph continues]

Last year, for example, the production of nonfood commodities in the republic increased by 2 percent against a growth of almost 5 percent for the production of industrial output.

The situation has shown no improvement during the first 5 months of this year. The manufacture of these commodities remains at virtually the same level as in the corresponding period of last year.

The CPSU Central Committee Politburo recently discussed the course of the program's fulfillment. The resolution which was adopted notes that many party, state, and economic organs both at the center and at local level have drawn no practical conclusions from the 27th CPSU Congress directives on radically changing attitudes toward questions of satisfying people's needs for high quality goods and services. The exceptional importance of the unconditional implementation of party directives for raising the people's living standards and of targets set by the program and by the 5-year and annual plans was emphasized most strongly.

Last month's conference in the CPSU Central Committee discussed the tasks of party, soviet, and economic organs in boosting consumer goods production and developing the services sphere. It was noted that, despite the difficulties early in the year, there must be no nonfulfillment of plans and additional targets for commodity production, commodity turnover, and provision of services to the population.

To improve the situation in the market it is necessary, starting this year, to boost the average annual rate of growth of output of articles for the population by 50 percent while the volume of paid services must at least double in comparison with the average annual rate envisaged by the 5-year plan. This is the minimum.

Under these conditions, the quest for and activation of all reserves to increase the output of consumer goods and services constitute a task of major socioeconomic and political importance.

And this task must be carried out at the local level using local resources. It is republic party and soviet organs that bear full responsibility for supplying the people with goods and services and ensuring a balance between the population's income and expenditure. The main way to satisfy the population's growing needs for goods and services lies through the maximum utilization of the production potential and labor resources at the republics' disposal.

How is this line being implemented in the Azerbaijan SSR? The results of the republic's work last year and this year present a cheerless picture.

In 1986 Azerbaijan failed to reach the average annual rate set by the Comprehensive Program and the 5-year plan control figures for the manufacture of nonfood consumer goods.

The targets set by the Comprehensive Program for the production of 9 out of the 14 most important types of articles listed therein were not met, including china, earthenware, enameled ware, orchard and garden tools, and household chemical products.

The January-May plan for the manufacture of commodities for cultural, consumer service, and domestic purposes was fulfilled 98 percent, and the shortfall in deliveries amounted to R8.6 million.

I must be blunt and say that you are not properly tackling the questions of satisfying people's needs for goods and services. Judge for yourselves. The republic's per capita production of nonfood commodities is significantly lower than in the country as a whole.

The basic difficulty in meeting the population's effective demand stems from the fact that extremely inadequate use is made of the production potential in the republic for the manufacture of consumer goods. The work of associations and enterprises in Group "A" sectors is particularly unsatisfactory in this respect. Almost half of enterprises produce less than 30 kopecks' worth of goods per R1 of their wages funds compared with an average indicator of 75 kopecks for the country as a whole. They include major enterprises like the "Prompribor" Science and Production Association (3 kopecks' worth), the "Mingechaurdormash" Production Association (1 kopeck's worth), the specialized motor vehicles plant (2 kopecks' worth), and the metalwork plant (2 kopecks' worth).

Quite a few enterprises restrict their contribution to the supply of commodities for the market to the manufacture of the simplest articles for domestic purposes. For several years now the Sumgait pipe rolling plant, for example, has been producing only metal nails (1 kopeck's worth per R 1 of its wages fund). The proportion of [consumer] goods represents less than 2 percent of the total volume of industrial output. And these are not isolated examples.

There can be no question that simple articles for cultural, consumer service, and domestic purposes are needed by the people and the demand for them is not satisfied everywhere. At the same time enterprises in Group "A" sectors must actively assimilate and expand the manufacture of complex household products. If this is not done, the Comprehensive Program cannot be fulfilled; supplies for retail commodity turnover cannot be guaranteed, and the population's growing demands for consumer durables cannot be satisfied.

The republic is suffering considerable losses by virtue of the fact that many Group "A" enterprises lack specialized shops and production units for the manufacture of consumer goods. In Baku, for example, only 25 percent of enterprises have specialized shops for the manufacture of consumer goods. There is, I think, no need to speak in detail of the effect this attitude toward the manufacture of consumer goods has on their quality, range, and prime costs, and consequently on their price.

Furthermore, the creation of specialized shops for the production of consumer goods has not been planned for many of the new group "A" enterprises now under construction like, for example, the Sumgait polyethylene complex, the Kirovabad motor vehicle plant, and a number of other major projects.

Only 12 specialized units are planned to be commissioned in the republic's Group "A" enterprises during the 12th 5-Year Plan period. But even their construction is lagging behind plan targets.

The instructions of the CPSU Central Committee and union government on this question are unambiguously and clearly set out in the resolutions on the Comprehensive Program.

The republic Council of Ministers and local party and soviet organs must ensure that enterprise leaders make broader use of the space and equipment released as a result of the transition to a multishift work system for the creation of specialized production units. [paragraph continues]

Here there is virtually no need for major capital investment, but what is primarily needed is organizational work and the personal initiative and interest of labor collectives themselves.

The creation of specialized production units is the main avenue for the development of consumer goods production. Unless this task is carried out the republic's industry will simply fail to reach the level of the high demands made by people today in terms of quality and range.

The republic is not paying due attention to the development of the material and technical base of consumer goods production. For example, the republic Comprehensive Program envisages the construction of a plant for low-capacity electric motors and the expansion of the Nakhichevan plant for electric lighting equipment. But nothing has been done so far. The start of reconstruction work on capacities for the production of domestic chemical products at the "Sumgaitbytkhim" Association and the Sumgait synthetic rubber plant has been put off until the end of the 5-year plan period. The construction of the shop for construction materials and facing products at the Kirovabad aluminum plant is progressing extremely slowly.

What is the conclusion to be drawn?

The leaders of many associations and enterprises have failed to properly realize the paramount social and political importance of the task of developing consumer goods production and continue to perceive this work as some sort of an annoying encumbrance, as something of secondary importance. By no means do all party and soviet organs make a principled assessment of such moods or are sufficiently demanding toward those directly responsible for the manufacture of articles for the people.

The Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee and the Azerbaijan Government must take effective measures to achieve immediately a fundamental breakthrough along this most important avenue of the party's economic and social policy.

Light industry occupies a special position in satisfying people's needs for nonfood goods. This sector's output in the republic accounts for 40 percent of the total volume of nonfood goods.

Until recently. however, the Council of Ministers and party organs paid insufficient attention to the work of Ministry of Light Industry enterprises. In 1986 the sector failed to meet the Comprehensive Program and 5-year plan targets. But even this downward-revised plan was not fulfilled in terms of goods deliveries on retail price terms, profit, labor productivity and the physical manufacture of a number of most important types of articles.

The 1987 plan is again below the targets set by the Comprehensive Program and the 5-year plan for retail trade and the manufacture of cotton and silk textiles. The work of light industry continues to lack stability. The January-May targets were not met for the most important indicators.

In 1988 too the ministry will also fail to reach the 5-year plan control figures for 6 of the 19 types of output notified by the union ministry.

And unless the situation is corrected the total shortfall in the first 3 years of the 5-year plan could be R230 million below the approved control figures.

It is incumbent upon the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee and the Azerbaijan Government to hold the republic Gosplan and the ministry strictly accountable for the plan's downward revision and to make a principled party assessment of such actions by economic leaders.

I want to remind you once more: The CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers demand that the Comprehensive Program's targets be perceived as the minimum. And this must become an immutable law for every ministry and every enterprise. The republic Council of Ministers and Gosplan must ensure that this directive is unconditionally implemented.

All the conditions to achieve this exist in the republic. Take for example the question of the utilization of production capacities and labor resources in light industry.

Capacity utilization in the production of cotton textiles is 12 percent below the average figures for the sector. A similar situation prevails at enterprises in the silk and wool subsectors. Clothing and footwear enterprises work with a shift index below 2, and this indicator is considerably lower than the sector average in cotton sector spinning and weaving.

And all this is happening while there is a surplus of labor resources in the republic and a pressing need to involve the unemployed part of the able-bodied population in the national economy.

Since 1987 light industry has switched to the new economic mechanism, to self-financing and self-capitalization. This makes greater demands of enterprises' production, economic, and financial activity. To work steadily and thriftily, to produce high quality output that is in demand by purchasers -- this is one of the main aspects of light industry restructuring under the new conditions of economic management and will wholly and totally determine the fulfillment of the profits plan and, consequently, the production and social development of collectives and the improvements of their working and everyday living conditions.

But in January-April this year the republic Ministry of Light Industry fulfilled its profits plan by only 78 percent, and shortfalls in output amounted to R11.2 million. Every second enterprise failed to cope with the plan targets.

Despite this, the ministry apparatus and its economic planning, financial, and sector administrations lack a precise program for ensuring the fulfillment of the profits plan. Administrations operate without coordination, in the old-fashioned way -- in other words on the basis of attained levels -- and, mainly, in isolation from enterprises. They are unaware of any reserves existing at enterprises and are unfamiliar with the state of affairs at local level. Their efforts are geared toward proving that plans are unrealistic.

Meanwhile, analysis shows that the main cause of the difficult financial situation of the sector's enterprises lies in the nonfulfillment of contractual commitments and the extremely poor quality of output. Fines imposed in respect of this in 1986 amounted to almost R27 million, which is equivalent to about one-third of all earned profit.

Take for example the Volodarskiy sewn goods factory in Baku. Last year it earned profits of R5.6 million and had to pay fines of R6.1 million, thus turning a profitable enterprise into a loss-making enterprise.

Expenditure per unit of output is very high. For example, profitability in the production of cotton yarns and knitted outerwear is almost two-thirds lower, in woolen textiles three-fourths lower, and in knitted underwear four-fifths lower than the sector average.

The question is: What do the labor collectives intend to exist on under the conditions of self-financing if they continue to operate with such results? The ministry and the enterprise leaders must immediately take the strictest of measures and strengthen contractual and technological discipline, otherwise the profits plan cannot be fulfilled.

One of the most pressing questions exerting a powerful braking effect on the development of the republic's light industry concerns the poor organization of cadre training and high cadre turnover. And the main reason behind all this is the lack of proper concern for people. There is a shortage of housing, hostels, dining rooms, and self-serve consumer service facilities, and labor conditions are bad.

The inadequate training of workers results in their labor productivity being significantly lower than the average figure for the sector. For example, labor productivity at Baku's fine fabric combine is 3.8 times lower in spinning and 3.8 times lower in weaving.

Each year about 3,000 pieceworkers, or 1 in almost every 8, fail to fulfill the production norms.

Work with the sector's leadership cadres also fails to meet contemporary demands. Formally, everything appears to be in order. Collegium sessions regularly examine questions concerning improvements in the selection, placement, and education of cadres. A nomenklature and a list of cadres in the promotion pool are in existence. But no specific and purposeful work is being done with them. Consequently, mistakes are still frequently made in the selection and placement of leadership cadres in the ministry and in enterprises and associations.

The state of affairs in the republic's light industry confirms the conclusion that the ministry leadership and its collegium are extremely slow in restructuring their activity, are not properly prepared to work under the conditions of the new economic mechanism, and tolerate the existing shortcomings.

I assume that the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee and the republic Council of Ministers will carefully analyze the sector's work and will give it all the assistance needed to resolve the pressing questions. It needs this assistance very much.

An important role has to be played by local industry in the work to meet the population's requirements for various goods, especially goods of the simplest varieties. But this sector's development is weak in your republic.

In terms of per capita output of local industry products Azerbaijan lags considerably behind not just the average sector indicators but also the neighboring republics.

Even though the sector is coping with its plan fulfillment in terms of volume indicators, numerous serious shortcomings exist in the work of the Ministry of Local Industry's enterprises and its apparatus.

The manufacture of goods in the required range is not ensured. In 1986 the plan for deliveries to marketable stocks was not fulfilled for 7 out the 17 most important product types, and the shortfall amounted to R23 million. Deliveries taking contractual commitments into account are not being ensured this year, either.

The state of affairs in capital construction is extremely unsatisfactory. Assimilation of funds stands at just 66 percent. This is one of the lowest indicators among union republic ministries of local industry.

Despite a generally rapid rate of growth in the manufacture of output from local raw materials and industrial waste, it represents an extremely small proportion of the total volume of output.

A number of new production units for the manufacture of goods were commissioned during the last 5-year plan period. But the production potential is poorly utilized. While the value of assets doubled, output increased only 20 percent.

The Comprehensive Program's stipulation on gradually reducing local industry's output of nonspecialized goods and correspondingly increasing the output of consumer goods is being implemented only slowly. The proportion of Group "A" output in your republic still stands at over 20 percent.

To put it briefly, the potential at local industry's disposal is still far from fully utilized. It would be correct if the republic Council of Ministers were to carefully investigate the state of affairs in this sector and take the necessary measures ensuring that local industry develops fully in line with the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution on this question.

The problem of quality today is perhaps the most important in the entire package of problems of our economy's development. A struggle by the whole people for quality and the manufacture of Soviet brand name goods in line with the best world standards has been launched throughout the country on the party's initiative.

A certain amount of work along this avenue has also been done in your republic. But the returns from this work are still very poor. The quality of consumer goods is rising only slowly.

Consequently, as of 1 January this year the republic's retail trade network had stockpiled a large quantity of unmarketable and slow-moving goods, 41 percent of which comprised articles made by Azerbaijan light industry enterprises.

The proportion of reject output increased in the first quarter of this year, and was 1.5-3 times higher than the average sector indicators.

In January-March 1987 wholesale organizations returned for repairs and downgraded one-third of the inspected output from a number of Baku enterprises.

The manufacture of new and better quality "N" grade articles [denoting articles incorporating some innovative content] and of fashionable goods in particular, is expanding extremely slowly. Their proportion in the total volume of output from the republic Ministry of Light Industry system in 1986 was less than 8 percent against 26 percent in the country as a whole, and only 1.9 percent in the Ministry of Local Industry system.

But the republic does have the potential to make such goods. The sector's enterprises and organizations employ more than 140 artistic specialists, there are two fashion houses (for clothing and for footwear), and a theater producing fashion shows has been set up. But this potential is underutilized.

Leaders of the Ministry of Light Industry and of enterprises were insufficiently prepared for the introduction of state acceptance. As a result of this, the Sheki silk production association and the Baku fashion footwear factory suffered a considerable decline in output volumes in January-February. The situation is now being corrected. Bearing in mind that state acceptance will be significantly expanded as of 1 January next year, the ministry must draw the necessary conclusions and prepare its enterprises better for this responsible work.

Purchasers make numerous justified complaints about the quality of goods for cultural, consumer service, and domestic purposes. The reasons are well known -- poor technical standards of products, primitive aesthetic presentation, breaches of technological discipline. The output of top quality goods in the republic is not in excess of 1 percent and declined by more than half in 1986.

The proportion of top quality goods for cultural and consumer service purposes is not growing and stands at 21 percent, which is less than in the country as a whole. The plan for the output of these products has not been fulfilled since the beginning of the year.

A similar situation prevails in the quality of articles in local industry.

All this gives grounds for the conclusion that your work with collectives in regard to quality is seriously deficient and that you have failed to display the necessary exactingness.

Summing up what I have said, I would like to emphasize that no slackening and no compromises are permissible in questions concerning the technical standard, quality, and range of goods. What is needed from each and every person here is painstaking, intensive, and conscientious work aimed at the manufacture of products meeting the most modern requirements. This is the goal toward which party committees must orient economic leaders and labor collectives.

The satisfaction of people's needs for goods is directly dependent on how efficiently the trade network operates. This is why, both while preparing for the trip to Azerbaijan and during our stay in the republic, we have tried to familiarize ourselves as much as possible with the state of affairs in this sphere.

The retail trade turnover plan is not being fulfilled year in and year out. In January-May it was unfulfilled both in terms of overall volume and if you exclude the sale of alcoholic beverages. There can be no argument that the shortage of goods is the main cause. It is, however, impossible not to perceive the major shortcomings, errors, and failings in trade itself, which have a considerable effect on turnover and primarily on the satisfaction of people's needs and on their mood.

How can the situation be considered normal when in every single month your republic has experienced breakdowns in supplies to the population with various articles, including some which are not in short supply? In this year alone Kirovabad, Sheki, Mingechaur, and a number of other cities have often had no available supplies of goods in daily demand like flour, groats, canned fish, fruit, vegetables, and other products.

Restructuring is also needed in the activity of the Ministry of Trade and the Azerbaijan Potrebsoyuz. They must bear greater responsibility for rationally distributiong commodity resources, supplying goods needed by the population to the market, actively influencing industry, and ensuring the fulfillment of the retail trade turnover plan. It is primarily as a result of serious shortcoming in their work that an extremely adverse situation has developed in Azerbaijan in terms of commodity stocks.

While they are lower than the normative in the country as a whole, commodity stocks in your republic are above the norm.

Extremely sharp criticism must be leveled against the republic's work on the development of trade, and particularly trade in fashionable articles. Just one "Moda" Store has opened, and even it is experiencing product range difficulties. I believe that trade and industry must work better along this avenue and organize effective collaboration in the interests of purchasers.

The republic Council of Ministers, the Ministry of Trade, and local soviets must devote more attention to expanding commission trade in nonfood goods and increasing sales of commercial production waste and construction materials.

The public catering system owes a great deal to the republic's population. It is difficult to have a meal in the city; there is a shortage of dining rooms where people work and study, and targets for their commissioning are systematically not met. The situation is particularly bad regarding dining rooms in schools, vocational and technical schools, technical colleges, and VUZ's -- availability in these places is approximately 50 percent of the normative.

The consumer cooperative's reserves have not been fully activated in order to boost commodity resources in the republic. Goods produced by cooperative enterprises represent only 5.7 percent of the trade turnover of consumer cooperatives. Despite the shortage of goods, Azerbaijan's cooperative workers systematically fail to meet the production plan. Last year they failed to meet the targets for the production of confectionery products, alcohol-free beverages, and nonfood goods. Production plans for some types of output are not being fulfilled this year, either.

It is impossible to describe as satisfactory the work done by cooperative workers on organizing purchases of agricultural products from the population's personal plots, kolkhozes, and sovkhozes. The 1986 targets for the purchase of numerous types of agricultural products were not met. During the first quarter of this year procurement plans for vegetables, eggs, milk and dairy products, fruit, and dried fruit were fulfilled only 25-70 percent. Kolkhoz and sovkhoz purchases of products to meet the target of 30 percent of planned volume are developing only slowly.

Party and soviet organs must take the leaders of consumer cooperative organizations more strictly to task regarding ensuring that fuller use is made of the system's reserves.

There must be a radical change of attitude toward the development of the paid services sphere. The plans for provision of services to the population are systematically not met in the republic, even though Azerbaijan ranks 11th among union republics in terms of availability of services to residents.

Enterprises and organizations under nonspecialized ministries and departments are especially slow in taking on the provision of paid services. Only about one-third of them take part in this work.

Consumer services for the population are also at a low level. Plan targets are not met year in and year out. In January-April this year the plan was fulfilled only 97 percent. And this is happening despite the fact that the per capita consumer services obtained by Azerbaijan's population are 50-80 percent below the average for the country.

To put it briefly, quite a few problems have accumulated in your trade and services sphere. The economic and social importance of the entire complex of questions concerning services for the population is manifestly underestimated by soviet, economic, and even party organs in the republic. This attitude by leadership cadres must be resolutely overcome.

I think that it would be correct if the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee and the Council of Ministers were to draw up a clear plan of actions aimed at accelerating the development of trade, public catering, and the services sphere and to encourage soviet and economic leaders to properly tackle the work in this sector.

The successful accomplishment of the tasks we are discussing today demands a fundamental renewal of the style and methods of work. In fulfillment of the directives of the 27th party congress and the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum, the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee and its Bureau and Secretariat are devoting more attention to the affirmation of businesslike efficiency, responsibility, initiative, and openness in the activity of party, soviet, and economic organs.

At the same time, the observations made in the past few days and the conversations held with leadership cadres and ordinary working people lead me to conclude that restructuring has still not spread to all sectors of the republic's social and economic life, to all management links, and to many gorkoms, raykoms, and primary party organizations.

The Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee must be more persistent in pursuing restructuring and must aim to ensure that it really proceeds in-depth, penetrating the life and activity of all party, soviet, trade union, and Komsomol organs and organizations.

We rightfully perceive the strengthening of our party's ties with the masses as its most outstanding gain since April 1985. Today the party's authority and the people's trust in its policy are higher than ever before. This represents our most valuable political asset, and it must be safeguarded and augmented.

Enormous significance in this regard attaches to the consistent implementation of the cadre policy elaborated by the January plenum. It is necessary to completely rule out any instances of leaders who have wrecked the cause or committed abuses being moved to the next leadership position in line. It is incumbent on party committees to resolutely eradicate the promotion of cadres to responsible positions on the strength of local ties, personal loyalty, family connection, or favoritism. [paragraph continues]

The only criteria to be applied here are businesslike, moral, ideological, and political qualities, the attitude displayed toward restructuring and democratization, and personal participation in their implementation. Any deviations from these principles can only diminish party influence among the masses and create an atmosphere of mutual protection and lack of monitoring in a given sector.

Azerbaijan is facing acute problems involving negative phenomena, primarily in the social sphere. Recent efforts by party, soviet, and law enforcement organs in the republic have resulted in a stepped up struggle against economic mismanagement, embezzlement of the people's wealth, bribery, window-dressing, cheating in stores and on transport, extortion and bribery in medical and consumer services and in VUZ's, and all other types of corruption and unearned income. It was correct that you raised these questions for discussion at the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee plenum and laid down a specific program of action to eliminate social deformities.

It can be said without the slightest exaggeration that the eradication of negative social phenomena in your republic is one of the most important avenues of the struggle for restructuring directly affecting the interests and prosperity of all honest working people. This is why it is so important to finish the work that has begun. The successful outcome of this struggle will be perceived by the people as weighty evidence of the republic party organization's ability to firmly march along the path of improving social life and to reliably protect the working people from any attempts by all sorts of crooks to live at their expense.

The importance of the ideological and political tempering of cadres and their education in the spirit of Soviet patriotism and fraternal international friendship between our country's peoples increases further still in the process of restructuring. In line with the demands of the time, it is necessary to qualitatively improve the political, professional, and economic training of cadres.

Comrades! Our time is a time of most profound and revolutionary transformation aimed at revealing to the full the mighty creative potential of socialism. The accomplishment of the tasks facing the country demands total dedication from each party and public organization, from each labor collective, from every worker.

I would like to express confidence that Azerbaijan's Communists and all workers will spare no effort in ensuring the fulfillment of the 27th CPSU Congress decisions and the targets for 1986, the year of the Great October's 70th anniversary, and the 5-year plan as a whole.

Allow me to wish you successes in this intensive and noble work.

BOVIN ON RESTRUCTURING'S PLACE IN HISTORY

PM141509 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Jul 87 Morning Edition p 6

[Article by own Political Observer A. Bovin under the "Problems and Opinions" rubric: "Restructuring and the Fate of Socialism"]

[Text] The significance of the CPSU Central Committee June (1987) Plenum goes far beyond the bounds of purely economic problems. [paragraph continues]

The plenum documents and its decisions are examples of the new, innovative approach to the party's main task -- the strategic leadership of the most important spheres of social life. The surge of intellectual activity spoken about at the plenum is required to transform not only economics, politics, and political science but the whole theoretical front and to put the theory of socialism on a sound footing based on facts and their objective analysis.

One of the questions coming to the forefront of research in the actual course of events may be formulated roughly as follows: What place does restructuring occupy in the broad context of the history of socialism? The upcoming jubilee celebrations of the 70th anniversary of the October Revolution make it even more vital that this question be asked. Due tribute must be paid to the heroic efforts of several generations of Communists and Soviet people who brought our country to the forefront of world history. However, we must also ask ourselves: What happened, then? Why after 7 decades of building socialism are we faced with the need for a qualitative, radical, and revolutionary restructuring of what has been built?

Friedrich Engels uses the expression the "irony of history." History appears to adopt an ironic attitude toward and smiles wryly at attempts to consciously direct its course. People who have carried out a revolution and changed the course of history by, as they see it, their own will and perception suddenly note with surprise that what has been achieved is very different from what was conceived. For a long time we presumptuously assumed that Engels' notion did not apply to communist parties. We now see that we were mistaken. It is possible of course to talk about this in a more roundabout way. But I hope that we are adult enough not to back away from calling a spade a spade.

Yes, the society which we have created does in many respects fail to satisfy us: It is incapable of revealing all of socialism's advantages. It must therefore be restructured. And it is precisely the documents of the CPSU Central Committee June (1987) Plenum that most graphically show how radical this restructuring will be and the kind of profound changes being carried out in the economic foundations of our home and on its social, political, and ideological planes.

The ideologues of imperialism hasten to interpret what is happening as a historic defeat for socialism: Socialism has led the "Soviets" into a dead end and they have begun to dismantle it; for the time being this course is disguised by Marxist phraseology, but sooner or later restructuring will lead to Western values gaining the upper hand, the "market" triumphing over the "plan," and freedom and openness destroying "communist power." In general, our struggle to renew socialism will generate a kind of renaissance and revival of hopes of eroding socialism.

The practice of restructuring is undoubtedly the best refutation of such views. However, the arguments in our favor are not situated just in the future, they exist both in the past and the present.

The 27th CPSU Congress, which generated a wave of revolutionary changes, pinpointed new thinking as an essential prerequisite for the successful implementation of party decisions. The basic demands of new thinking are merciless realism and antidogmatism, openness toward everything that is new and unexpected, fearlessness and consistency in both formulating questions and drawing conclusions, strict logical argument and reliance on knowledge and experience rather than faith, constant self-criticism, and readiness to reexamine one's views if they run contrary to experience -- these demands make it possible for us in many respects to take a fresh look at the history and theory of socialism and the course and experience of socialist-building in the USSR.

The real history of socialism seems to us, among other things, to be a process of confrontation between truth and delusion, a process in which delusion was not always destined to be defeated. The history of socialism is full of unexpected turns, which, in V.I. Lenin's words, "neither Marx nor any Marxists" could have foreseen. Every revolution is a leap into the unknown. There was of course a theory and a program, but they provided only the most general and abstract conceptions of socialism (the dictatorship of the proletariat, the absence of exploitation of man by man, the socialization of the means of production, and social justice). Addressing the Seventh Russian Communist Party (Bolshevik) Congress in 1918, Lenin said: "We cannot supply a description of socialism; we do not know and cannot say what socialism will be or when it will attain finished form." The absence of a detailed picture of the future and lack of experience opened up enormous scope for experimentation and historical creativity on the part of the masses. But at the same time the dependence of the practice (and theory) of socialist-building on all manner of chance events and the influence of forces and circumstances of a specific historical and transient nature intensified.

Two fundamental factors determined, in my view, the complexion of socialism created in Russia. First, the general socioeconomic backwardness of the country and, second, the first socialist state's isolation and its encirclement by hostile capitalism. Socialism survived and triumphed but had to pay a high sociopolitical "price" for this.

The brief NEP experiment did not at the time receive a detailed objective, principled assessment and was therefore unable to exert any substantial influence upon the formation of a model of a social system for which, albeit not immediately, the following features became characteristic:

Maximum centralization of political and economic power on the basis of the socialization of virtually all means of production (both large and small);

methods of managing socioeconomic processes based on administration and command;

reliance on extensive economic growth and quantitative indicators; inefficient utilization of scientific and technical progress;

a marked narrowing and formalization of the democratic norms of party and state life, the displacement of openness, and the virtual removal of the "grass-roots level" from decisionmaking.

We now appreciate that the aforementioned were caused by specific features (and problems) of socialism taking its first historic steps. But many years of domination by dogmatic thinking and limited experimentation led to particular, provisional features being regarded as universal and necessary attributes of socialism. This naturally obstructed change.

Was the model of socialism built by us the only possible one, even if you take into account all the historical circumstances? Unfortunately, Soviet science has hardly researched this question at all. It can only be supposed that the study of party discussions at the end of the twenties will make it possible to describe other alternatives. It seems to me, however, the pressure of objective and subjective factors created favorable ground for precisely the kind of socialism which was carried out. Or perhaps it is better to say that the pressure of objective and subjective factors left very little scope for carrying out any alternative version.

A number of very important topical issues were very quickly resolved within the framework of the form of socialism developed in the thirties: Production output showed a sharp increase and relations among nationalities were restructured; a cultural revolution took place. We were victorious in the Great Patriotic War. Postwar restoration was successfully completed. However, the main economic task of socialism -- the task of outstripping capitalism in terms of per capita labor productivity and output -- was not accomplished. We did not create a society which could serve in all its aspects as example, model for imitation, and source of inspiration in the struggle for the socialist transformation of the world.

The 20th CPSU Congress was a watershed in the history of socialism. The cult of Stalin's personality was debunked. The limited, provisional nature of those aspects of our life which reflected the extraordinary conditions prevailing during the foundation of the new system was shown up. A route to change and above all change in the political structures and political system was opened up. The condemnation of the arbitrary rule associated with the cult of personality and the restoration of the rule of law substantially improved the situation in the party and country. It did not, however, prove possible to overcome the inertia of the old. Leninist principles of party and state life were not completely restored.

The economic management system based on command and administration and reliance on all-embracing centralism, extensive growth, and gross indicators, with disregard for the law of value began to approach the limits of their potential at the end of the fifties and beginning of the sixties. It became increasingly clear during the discussion launched at that time that the existing economic mechanism required radical changes. The reforms begun indicated the correct route, but that route was not followed. We again limited ourselves to half-measures and were again unable to break the resistance of accumulated inertia and old habits and procedures backed up by considerable social groups.

In the absence of reform the old economic system continued to exist and operate according to its own laws. Growth rates fell. Forward movement was ensured by increasing capital investments which yielded an ever-decreasing return. The results of scientific and technical progress were introduced unacceptably slowly. People's interest in productive labor declined. Apathy and social passivity grew. This all indicated that the management system created in the thirties through the fifties had completely exhausted its potential. Its retention had led to economic stagnation, had brought our society essentially to the verge of a crisis, and had weakened the Soviet Union's authority and influence in the international arena.

Consequently, departure from and radical restructuring of the former system and the creation of a new one constitute a vital historical necessity, a long-due, if not overdue, social requirement. Restructuring, which is to play a crucial role in the history of socialism, is the response to that need.

Formulating the goals of restructuring, M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has stated: "Our efforts are now directed toward reorganizing the entire social mechanism. In economics this means the transition from extensive to intensive methods and accelerated socioeconomic progress on the most advanced scientific and technical footing.

"In the political sphere this means the development of broad democracy and self-management by the people, the eradication of bureaucracy and abuse of power, and the strengthening of socialist legality.

"In ideology and the spiritual sphere this means the creative development of Marxist-Leninist theory to counter a mechanical, uncritical, and dogmatic approach and the establishment of principles of high morality and socialist values."

The restructuring proclaimed at the CPSU congress also means a transition to a new level of development, a transition to higher, modern forms of socialism.

The critics of socialism mentioned at the beginning of this article that those who write about a "shift to the right" and "bourgeois liberal tendencies" in CPSU policy primarily point to the "combination of a plan and the market," the use of cooperative and individual labor, and the creation of mixed enterprises. This criticism takes the appearance for reality and therefore misses the target. We are turning toward rather than away from socialism and replacing one historically spent form of it with another, that is to say, we are modernizing and improving socialism in relation to the new conditions.

But are we casting off everything that is old? No, only that which hampers innovation and progress. Moreover, we are instilling new life into certain forms of economic activity which would seem to have been already overtaken by the theory and practice of socialism. The stronger political power is, the greater its scope for maneuver and experimentation. We have created the necessary strength to utilize commodity-money relationships, small-scale cooperative members, individual craftsmen, and foreign capital investments in the interests of socialism. We have understood and seen through our own experience that all labor which helps meet human needs is of fundamental value and can "work" for the benefit of socialism.

A few international aspects of the topic to conclude. The victory of the socialist revolution in Russia and the subsequent formation of the world's first socialist system are of permanent international significance. They helped ensure that broad strata of the working class and working people in developed capitalist countries achieved a considerable improvement in their socioeconomic situation. At the same time it should be acknowledged that capitalism's ability to adapt to the new historical situation exceeded our predictions. The prospects for socialist transformations in developed capitalist countries have been shunted into the indefinite future. The situation in a number of countries of socialist persuasion remains unstable and is susceptible to regression. And in capitalist and Third World countries, communist parties, with certain exceptions, have been unable to transform themselves into mass organizations and secure the support of the bulk of the working class and working people. There are a number of reasons for this and one of them is undoubtedly the failures, contradictions, and phenomena of crisis and stagnation in the development of the Soviet Union, other socialist countries, and world socialism as a whole. Socialism has not yet been able to achieve that force of example of which V.I. Lenin spoke.

That means that all socialist countries face similar tasks -- the tasks of markedly increasing the efficiency of the national economy, fully restoring the position of socialist democracy, and improving the quality of life by improving productive relations. These tasks are being accomplished in the Soviet Union during the course of restructuring. Other socialist countries operate on the basis of their own understanding of the situation and their own interests and needs. Everyone's experience is open to everyone else, but what is taken from that experience, what you "transplant" into your own soil, is everywhere decided independently.

Now for the conclusions. If the restructuring program outlined in the USSR is fulfilled, if we are able not just to talk about the advantages of the new initiative but also to show them, socialism -- both as a system of relations and a way of life -- will be raised to a qualitative new level. And if you also bear in mind the successes of modernization in the PRC and the improvement of socialism in other countries, the approaching millenium could be marked by major shifts toward socialism in world social opinion. This will help ease international tension, promote stable peaceful coexistence, and bring about the most painless forms of social progress.

But we must clearly understand that if restructuring does not succeed, if it is substantially restricted, limited, or again reduced to palliatives and half-measures, if socialist countries do not achieve a new level and capitalism rather than socialism succeeds in harnessing the new thrust of the scientific and technical revolution, the worldwide correlation of forces will shift in favor of capitalism. This will make social progress more difficult and hamper the struggle against militarism and the threat of a devastating and destructive war for civilization.

That is the significance of restructuring as seen from the standpoint of the fate of socialism. We Soviet Communists have again assumed a very great responsibility, a responsibility to the Soviet people and the whole world. And it is this sense of responsibility which must determine the resolute, implacable struggle to be waged against the forces of stagnation and conservatism and everything and everyone hampering restructuring.

The revolution has triumphed. The revolution goes on.

HISTORIANS RESPOND TO AFANASYEV ARTICLE

PM151331 Moscow SOVETSKAYA KULTURA in Russian 4 Jul 87 p 6

[Article by Doctor of Historical Sciences Professor F.M. Vaganov and Doctor of Historical Sciences A.N. Ponomarev: "Neither Idealize, Nor Dramatize..."; published in response to 21 March 1987 SOVETSKAYA KULTURA "Conversation" with Professor Yu. Afanasyev titled "From Positions of Truth and Realism"]

[Text] Our socialist motherland is living through a tempestuous time of revolutionary creativity. Having proved its advantages as a social system over capitalism, socialism is embarking on a qualitatively new stage in its development. A broad and interested discussion of existing problems is in progress and contructive proposals are being submitted for restructuring and improving all aspects of society's life. This process is multifaceted and complex. Many difficulties and obstacles are arising on this path, debates are taking shape, different viewpoints are being expressed, and so forth. It is on such things that historical science thrives. /RESTRUCTURING HERE MEANS PRIMARILY CREATION/ [capitalized words within slantlines published in boldface] Based on what has been achieved and critically analyzing the state of affairs, it is important to determine the main topical trends for the development of Soviet historical science. In this connection, the interview with Doctor of Historical Sciences Professor Yu.N. Afanasyev "From Positions of Truth and Realism" published in SOVETSKAYA KULTURA 21 March 1987 could not fail to attract the attention of the public and historians in particular. The questions raised in the interview are so fundamental that they ought to be discussed on a wide and detailed basis by the collective efforts of historians, especially since many of the author's judgments -- despite their unusual and firm nature -- seem to us flawed, to put it mildly.

It is well known how important it is to correctly appraise what was done before our own period, for instance by previous generations of historians. They made a substantial contribution to the scientific elaboration of questions of the historical activity of the CPSU and the Soviet people in building a socialist society. The present generation has the opportunity to obtain information about how the October Socialist Revolution came to happen, how Lenin's plan for building socialism was implemented under the party's leadership, how the independence of our socialist motherland was defended against the invasion of the brown fascist plague during the Great Patriotic War, and so forth.

Social scientists, including historians, have also made their own worthy contribution to the shaping of social awareness and a Marxist-Leninist world view among working people and to the scientific illumination of the path traveled by the CPSU and the Soviet people. Of course, there have been many difficulties, errors, shortcomings, sharp debates, and disputes along this great and complex path. But the overall result was that Marxist-Leninist historical science emerged, grew stronger, and became a determining force in our country and a mighty detachment of historians was formed capable of tackling more complex and important tasks.

Why do we need to mention these seemingly very simple truths? The fact is that some articles recently -- on the pretext of restructuring -- have been putting forwrd as the prime task the reviewing and reinterpretation of virtually the entire history of the CPSU and of Soviet society.

It is particularly essential, Yu.N. Afanasyev says, for us to know the history of the 1917-1929 period "Under Lenin and After Lenin" and to overcome the Stalinist model of the "victory of October and the building of socialism in the USSR." In his opinion, we do not sufficiently "investigate the struggle of ideas and social projects and the 'models' of socialism proposed under Lenin and after his death." For this reason, we must "reread" and "ponder profoundly and as intently as possible" everything that happened at that time and overcome the Stalinist labels regarding "left-wing" and right-wing opportunists.

And how do matters actually stand? Our historians have studied and continued to study historical processes and conditions after the Great October Socialist Revolution, that is under V.I. Lenin and after him. And the results of that study are known. The adopted second Party Program (1919) and the plan for building socialism elaborated by V.I. Lenin were firmly and confidently implemented by the party both during V.I. Lenin's lifetime and at all subsequent stages of our history. During the implementation of the Lenin plan, the party had to wage a bitter struggle against the opponents of that plan -- Trotskiyists, the new opposition, and the right-wing tendency. The socialist society in the USSR was basically built in the second half of the thirties.

All this is stated precisely and clearly in the decisions of the party congresses and party Central Committee plenums, in the CPSU Program adopted by the 27th party congress, and in scientific works. The question is: What has happened to make it necessary to "reread" and reinterpret this period of party history? Whether the author intends it or not, his arguments raise ideas such as: Did the party implement the Lenin plan for building socialism? Did it act correctly by rejecting the political platform of opposition currents in its ranks because they had several draft "models" of socialism?

In the interview it is alleged with particular pointedness and emotional ardor that the defeat of a whole trend in historical science was organized in the early seventies, and that now these same "refuters" "are not ashamed on their own behalf to repeat precisely what was then anathematized as a deviation from Marxism." It is difficult to say what there is more of here: lack of information and ignorance, or deliberate distortion of the truth and the real facts.

Indeed, in the sixties the so-called "new trend" emerged, which set its views against the established and generally accepted historical concept on all fundamental questions of Russian history of the late 19th and early 20th century. The spokesman for this trend pointed out in the book "Questions of the History of Capitalist Russia" [Voprosy istorii Kapitalisticheskoy Rossil] (1972, p 5): "The works of P.V. Volobuyev, I.F. Gindin, P.G. Galuzo, L.M. Ivanov, and others played an important role in shaping the new trend."

These scholars set themselves the task of reading Lenin's concept of the history of Russia's socioeconomic development in the late 19th-early 20th century in a qualitatively new way. In other words, instead of the interpretation of the Lenin concept established in science -- which they alleged was outdated and obsolete -- a different interpretation was put forward and substantiated. In brief the essence of this new concept was as follows:

First, in Russia in the late 19th and early 20th century the capitalist mode of production was not dominant, but was one of the structures then existing in the economy. In this connection a new theory appeared: the mixed economy as a unified whole.

Because if capitalism was not dominant in the economy, it followed that the bourgeoisie and the proletariat were still not formed as classes in opposition to each other. What did this mean? It meant that the preconditions did not exist in our country for the creation of a proletarian party. When G.V. Pekhanov, in elaborating the theoretical part of the draft program of the Russian Social Democratic Workers Party (RSDWP), failed to provide a description of Russia's socioeconomic development but merely pointed to the development of capitalism in the world in general, V.I. Lenin immediately made the very significant observation that perhaps we should then also wait before pursuing social democracy. The party program adopted at the Second RSDWP Congress on Vladimir Ilich's initiative stated: "Capitalism has now become the dominant mode of production" in Russia ("The CPSU in Resolutions," Vol 1, p 61).

Second, the spokesman for the new trend put forward a theory about a special type of Russian capitalism. Third, a thesis was also put forward about a special type of revolutionary movement in Russia, the essence of which was that bourgeois-democratic and socialist tasks had merged into an indissoluble whole and could only be accomplished in a proletarian revolution, whose driving forces were the proletariat and the entire peasantry.

Thus it followed from all the aforementioned arguments of the spokesman for the new trend that the 1917 Great October Socialist Revolution in Russia was -- in terms of both its socioeconomic and political content and its driving class forces -- bourgeois-democratic and not socialist in nature.

This concept was widely illustrated in books and articles by these scholars published in the sixties and early seventies.

And when these views, which differed fundamentally from those existing in Soviet historical science, became known to broad circles of historians, the latter subjected them to serious criticism and convincingly demonstrated their flimsiness. Numerous discussions were held at the time on all these questions at the CPSU Central Committee Institute of Marxism-Leninism, the CPSU Central Committee Academy of Social Sciences, the USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of USSR History, and other scientific institutions, and also in the pages of history journals.

In defending the "new trend," Yu.N. Afanasyev returns the reader to the now no longer new but old idea that V.I. Lenin allegedly also believed that, because of its immature capitalism, Russia lacked the preconditions for a socialist revolution. The Mensheviks, he points out, "believed that Russia was not ready for socialism and that capitalism had not come to maturity here. Lenin understood that all this made sense. What is more, he saw this unreadiness not worse but better than the Mensheviks. And it is known what his response was."

It seems that V.I. Lenin saw even better than the Mensheviks how unripe Russia was for socialism. How then are we to understand the activity of V.I. Lenin and the party which -- on the bases of a profound and comprehensive analysis of socioeconomic development -- elaborated a theory of socialist revolution, substantiated the conclusion that the victory of socialism in one individual country was possible, and led the revolutionary struggle of the working class and the peasantry to overthrow the power of capitalism and establish the dictatorship of the proletariat.

How can the last 15-20 years be described from the viewpoint of the development of historical science? In Yu.N. Afanasyev's opinion, historical science has been oriented toward "conscious passivity," it has been characterized by "inertia" and "servility," the interpretation to theoretical problems has been the preserve of just a "group of people who have accumulated a large number of jobs," and the pages of scientific journals meant for "fresh opinions" have been "tightly barricaded with bureaucratic blocks of ice." And as a result: "The advance of thought has been halted for 20 years, "which have been a period of "artificial inhibition" of the development of historical science.

These are the dark colors in which this period is described. Although, by the by, no proof or arguments are cited to bear out these opinions.

We are not about to, nor indeed do we wish to idealize the development of historical science in this period. But nor should it be dramatized either. The truth must be just as it is. Since the interview gave a one-sided and largely incorrect appraisal of the state of historical science, we would like to draw attention to the following real facts. In the aforementioned period more than 10,000 scientific works by historians were published, which threw further and stronger light on many topical questions of history from ancient times to the present day. And to close one's eyes to this or pretend that nothing of the sort happened is to deviate from the truth.

To allege that historical thought is at a standstill is also untrue. It does not seem possible here to provide detailed information about how and in what ways our scientific knowledge of history has advanced quite substantially. [paragraph continues]

One thing is indisputable, and that is that it has not been at a standstill but has advanced. Of course, it could have advanced faster and further, and the existing opportunities in this respect have not been effectively utilized -- that is also fact. And we must draw the appropriate conclusions from this today.

It is difficult to imagine on what basis Yu.N. Afanasyev makes the following allegation, for example: Hardly any books on the Soviet period of our history of the kind "which prove to be social and cultural events" were created in the sixties and seventies.

Is this so? It was precisely during these years that through the efforts of many creative collectives of scientific institutions -- the CPSU Central Committee Institute of Marxism-Leninism, the CPSU Central Committee Academy of Social Sciences, the Institute of USSR History, the USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of World History, and union republic scientific institutions -- the following fundamental works were created and published: the multivolume "History of the CPSU," the multivolume "History of the USSR," the "History of the Great Patriotic War" (6 volumes), the "History of World War II" (12 volumes), the latest volumes of world history, the history of our country's working class, and the history of the international revolutionary movements, a 3-volume work by academician I.I. Mints on the history of the Great October Socialist Revolution, and a very significant number of other major scientific works marking a qualitatively new stage in the development of Soviet historical science.

We are not setting ourselves the task of making a comprehensive analysis of the development of historical science in this period. That is a separate question. Just a few positive factors which for certain reasons were omitted have been touched on here. As for weaknesses and shortcomings, there have of course been many of them. Here is one of the most important. In this period social scientists, including historicans, gradually began to pay less and less attention to the scientific elaboration of topical contemporary questions of the development of Soviet society. As a result there was a significant alienation of science from the problems of the present day and the problems put forward by life and the practice of socialist-building, and M.S. Gorbachev was right when he said that we unfortunately do not know the society in which we live today, because many vitally important problems which need serious study have remained outside scientists' field of vision and have not been worked on, and science has not helped the party with proposals and recommendations to tackle the urgent questions of improving socialist society.

The radical restructuring of the organization of scientific research and active study of life are needed here. It is time for all social scientists to leave their studies for a while and go out to the kolkhozes, sovkhozes, industrial enterprises, soviets, schools, hospitals, and cultural establishments, and to study in the labor collectives the current processes of revolutionary transformation and implementation of the 27th CPSU Congress decisions. They must actively generalize social practice and draft proposals which will help the CPSU and party organizations to implement more successfully the strategic course of accelerating the country's socioeconomic and political development.

IZVESTIYA EDITORIAL ON ECONOMY, DEMOCRATIZATION

PM081753 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Jul 87 Morning Edition p 1

[Editorial: "The Economy and Democracy"]

[Text] All fundamental transformations begin with the economy, the foundation of society's life. The decisions of the recent CPSU Central Committee June Plenum and the subsequent USSR Supreme Soviet session are exceptionally important primarily because they are aimed at the creation of a new economic mechanism. The enterprise (association) has been recognized as the main link of this mechanism. The main principle of its operation was also defined: Complete economic accountability [khozraschet] taking the form of self-financing and self-capitalization.

The essence of the changes lies in the transition from administrative to economic methods of management. The impetus to the economy will be provided not by orders from the top, not by trivial regulations, but by interest, or rather by a combination of the interests of each working person and the collective with the interests of the entire society. This is intended to ensure the economy's dynamic and accelerated development, reveal more fully the advantages of socialism, and mobilize the entire creative potential of the people and every honest person for restructuring.

The economy is the foundation of changes in all aspects of life. Today, however -- and this was clearly demonstrated by both the plenum and the session -- the interlinkage between the economy and democracy emerges in the foreground.

Frankly speaking, many of us sensed this interlinkage also in the past, especially during the fairly recent period which we will still examine for a long time to come, drawing from it graphic lessons for the future.

Indeed: How democratic are, for example, the attempts by the center (ministries) to commandeer the profits of the best enterprises and redistribute them by handing them over to those whose work was worse? How democratic is the desire to prescribe to farms from above which part of their fields is to be planted when and with what? No. In exactly the same way, monopoly dominance in science by some given school or trend has nothing at all to do with democracy -- it leads to a point where there is no opportunity to select the best option for a solution. All this is undemocratic and, at the same time, economically inconsistent and flawed. Administrative command methods, which easily evolve into bureaucratism, have been and still largely remain the main braking factor.

Such methods, cultivated for many years on end, have dulled economic leaders' taste for economic activity and enterprise, fettered ideas and initiative, and deformed important aspects of socialist democracy to such an extent that today, when Leninist principles of management are being revived, the reaction to this revival takes two forms: On the one hand, approval for changes can be sensed at various levels and this creates a new and favorable atmosphere in society. On the other hand, there are instances of confusion, with people not knowing where to start implementing the desired changes.

It cannot be denied that the past has left its indelible mark on us all. Time and again we will be perplexed by the complexity and ambiguity of the process of renewal, its consequences, and the mistakes and difficulties. [paragraph continues]

But anyone who has accepted restructuring with all his mind and heart cannot remain uninvolved in this process. By participating in it Soviet people will be educated in restructuring. And the session noted correctly: By altering the world around us, we are altering ourselves.

The CPSU Central Committee plenum emphasized: The measures adopted to improve the economic mechanism will be supplemented in the very near future by a "package" of other acts, taking the work that has been launched deeper still.

It is remarkable that, only 2 days later, the USSR Supreme Soviet adopted, together wih the Law on State Enterprise (Association), the first two laws in this "package" -- first, the Law on Nationwide Discussion of Important Questions of State Life, and second, the Law on the Procedure of Appeal to the Courts Against Illegal Actions by Officials Encroaching on Citizen's Rights.

Studying these acts, many of us would still recall past practices, when discussion of drafts seemed to have "taken place," remarks on them appeared to have been taken into account and summed up, but all this was formal, stage-managed from above. Meanwhile, important decisions affecting the living conditions of millions of people and involving colossal expenditure like, for example, the reversal of rivers to flow to the south, were being hatched up behind closed doors, in the silence of offices.

The new law is designed to put an end to such practices and to really guarantee every citizen's constitutional right to play an active part in running the affairs of his collective, city, republic, and the whole country. The law must provide an additional stimulus for the galvanization of social life and must give people an opportunity to have their say on questions of economic and social policy.

The second of the aforementioned laws also transfers the solution of a number of questions from closed administrative review to an open sphere -- the people's court. Being elective and independent organs, the courts will help both in eradicating instances of officials acting in excess of their power, and in protecting leaders from unjustified and slanderous complaints hindering normal work. Many lawyers are convinced that the implementation of this law will diminish the stream of applications to central organs and will activate the process of restructuring and local democratization.

The further deepening and expansion of democracy will be served on the one hand by the forthcoming repeal of a multiplicity of self-contradicting instructions and supplements thereto, and on the other hand by the adoption of a series of laws affirming new developments in our life: For example, on cooperatives, on openness, on voluntary societies and creative unions, on legal guarantees of citizens' rights and legitimate interests, and others. All this will expand the front of our democracy's actions.

At the same time, it must be realized tht the adoption of the aforementioned measures will not only slacken the struggle for restructuring and democracy, but will rather exacerbate it. Indeed, will it be that simple to abandon habits formed over the years and demarcate the spheres of management between, say, an enterprise and a ministry? Or between economic and soviet organs?

Or take economically accountable profits. An enterprise's situation and its independence will largely depend on the normatives that will be set for it regarding the expenditure of such profits. [paragraph continues]

It is therefore clear that norms will become -- and already have become, as deputies said at the session -- the objects of a most acute struggle. The old-fashioned will not yield its positions without such a struggle. To overcome it and to persistently and consistently affirm democratic principles means to continue the cause of Great October, whose glorious jubilee will provide an additional impulse for restructuring.

'TRIAL OF THOSE GUILTY' AT CHERNOBYL CONTINUES

LD150903 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0818 GMT 15 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow, 15 Jul (TASS) -- Experts say that numerous violations of the rules on the use of equipment during the period when an experiment was being carried out are the main causes which led directly to the Chernobyl AES accident. In a report from the Chernobyl-held trial of those guilty of this incident the MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI daily quoted the conclusion of the technical commission of experts, which states that the experiment that commenced prior to the accident was a continuation of a series of similar and unsuccessful research projects. Nor was the experiment prepared in any serious manner. People with low qualifications were entrusted with the task of carrying it out.

The newspaper reports that in the dock are: Viktor Bryukharov, former director of the AES; Nikolay Fomin, chief engineer; Anatoliy Dyatlov, deputy chief engineer; and three other AES workers. They bear responsibility for the breach of safety regulations governing potentially explosives enterprises that led to humans becoming victims and other serious consequences, and also for the fact that the measures set out in the plan for evacuation were not taken (such plans exist for every AES and for various degrees of accidents). Furthermore, the situation was aggravated by the lack of openness concerning the radiation situation. The "classified nature" [zakrytost] of subjects concerning the state of affairs in nuclear power engineering was one of the reason for the accident in Chernobyl, the paper writes.

On being asked by the judge of the proceedings whether the defendents pleaded guilty, three of them replied that they pleaded guilty in part, and three of them refused to plead guilty, MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI reports. The trial continues.

MOSCOW COMMENTARY REFUTES REPORTED BRIBERY IN ESTONIA

LD142154 Moscow International Service in Finnish 1600 GMT 14 Jul 87

[Commentary by Oleg Okulovskiy; read by announcer]

[Text] A few days ago, the Swedish newspaper DAGENS NYHETER told its readers that in Soviet Estonia the republic's military commisar, Major-General Roomet Kiudmaa, had been arrested for accepting bribes from people who did not want to do their military service in Afghanistan. At the same time, Swedish radio reported that the republic's Minister of the Interior Marko Tibar had resigned because he knew about the bribes but did not take any measures. Later, the same canard was disseminated by AFP.

Dear listeners, we shall now tell you the real state of affairs. In the name of truth, yesterday your observer Okulovskiy contacted (Kalju Muurisepp), the deputy of the Estonian Government's permanent representative in Moscow. He asked me to call at the Estonian mission.

What Swedish radio reported on 9 July is totally unfounded, said (Kalju Murrisepp). The story about Marko Tibar's resignation is totally without foundation. Only today I was in telephone contact with him. He is on vacation and when he heard about the report he was very angry. Marko Tibar said that he had no intention of resigning from his post, nor does anyone else intend to dismiss him.

After that Oleg Okulovskiy asked (Kalju Murrisepp) to comment on Swedish press reports concerning the Estonian military commissar, Roomet Kiudmaa. The reports concerning the arrest of Roomet Kiudmaa are deliberate fabrications, says (Kalju Murrisepp). Judicial prosecutors have dealt with the matter and found that there is no proof of any acceptance of bribes. I know Roomet Kiudmaa personally and I can say with full responsibility that he is an honest man.

In conclusion, our observer asked (Kalju Murrisepp) to assess the fabrications disseminated by the Swedish mass media. This is not the first time by any means that the Swedish mass media disseminated unchecked reports, he says. Sometimes they write about Soviet submarines in Swedish territorial waters and sometimes they invent something else. If we speak about the reasons for spreading such misleading information, I should think that certain opinion leaders have tried to gain something for themselves through that. The dissemination of fabrications about the Soviet Union has for a long time been a good source of making money in the Western press, (Kalju Murrisepp) says.

Let us hope, however, that times will change, our observer Okulovskiy continues. I believe that foreign readers and listeners are, above all, interested in journalists earning their fees for truthful news and not for spreading unfounded stories.

IZVESTIYA DETAILS SUPREME COURT PLENUM

PM061245 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Jun 87 Morning Edition p 6

[Unattributed report: "USSR Supreme Court Plenum"]

[Text] A routine plenum of the USSR Supreme Court has been held under the chairmanship of V.I. Terebilov.

Following a report by V.S. Vodovozov, member of the USSR Supreme Court, the plenum discussed the issue of the courts' application of legislation to protect the USSR economic zone.

The report and speeches noted that the Soviet state has laid down conditions and procedures in this zone which govern the exploration and development of natural resources and which have the aim of ensuring their preservation, satisfying the USSR's requirements for them within acceptable limits, and developing cooperation with other states. In this respect it is incumbent on the courts to take into account the fact that fishing, marine scientific research, and other forms of activity in the USSR economic zone to which the sovereign rights and jurisdiction of the Soviet state apply may only be carried out by foreign legal and physical persons on the basis of agreement between the USSR and other interested states and also given observance of USSR legislation applicable to that zone.

The courts are instructed, when examining cases relating to the imposition of fines for the unlawful exploration or development of natural resources in the USSR economic zone, for marine scientific research in the zone without the consent of the competent Soviet organs, the creation of artificial islands, the erection of installations and other edifices, and also for the creation of security zones around them without the appropriate permission, to apply when necessary as an additional penalty (in addition to a fine which may be imposed up to the limit of R100,000) the following: confiscation of the vessel, installation, fishing equipment, other equipment, instruments, or any other objects used by offenders, and also all unlawful gains. This measure may also be applied in cases where the objects used by offenders belong to persons others than themselves.

At the same time as applying the above penal measures (fine, confiscation of the vessel, fishing equipment, and so forth) the court must also decide the issue of compensation for the damage done to live and other resources in the USSR economic zone, and also to anadromous fish stocks.

If, when examining a case concerning the imposition of a fine, the court finds it impossible to simultaneously resolve the issue of compensation for damages, in accordance with Article 7 of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium resolution of 12 November 1984, any petition for damages made by fish conservation organs under the USSR Ministry of the Fish Industry or by organs under the USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources that are responsible for protecting water systems and regulating their use will be separated from the aforementioned case and be liable to examination as an ordinary proceeding.

The courts are instructed to improve their monitoring of the enforcement of resolutions and decisions which apply to cases, connected with violation of legislation on the USSR economic zone. If necessary, all legal measures should be applied in order to ensure the full and timely collection of fines and compensation for damages.

Following reports by G.A. Zemribo, chairman of the Latvian SSR Supreme Court, and A.F. Demyanenko, member of the USSR Supreme Court, the plenum discussed the question of the fulfillment by Latvian SSR courts of USSR Supreme Court plenum resolutions on the application of legislation regulating marital and family relations.

Concern was expressed during the discussion at the considerable number of cases brought before the courts concerning divorce, alimony payments, and deprivation of parental rights. In a considerable number of cases, the courts are guilty of haste in the examination of divorce cases, failing to take the necessary measures to effect a reconciliation of the marriage partners, primarily those with under-age children.

As a USSR Supreme Court plenum indicated in a 28 November 1980 resolution "On the Practice of Courts' Application of Legislation in the Examination of Divorce Cases," a court has the right to satisfy a petition for divorce only if it has established that the marriage partners' continued life together and the preservation of the family unit has become impossible and that the family has broken down completely. When examining divorce cases the court must establish whether a reconciliation of the marriage partners is really impossible, and, when necessary, measures to effect a reconciliation must be taken in the preliminary stages of preparing the case for its court hearing. This requirement is often not enforced in Latvian courts. Measures stipulated by law which are intended to promote a reconciliation, such as deferring the court hearing for a period of up to 6 months, are applied extremely rarely.

Other important factors sometimes remain unclarified during the court examination, such as, for example, whether an agreement has been reached between marriage partrers with under-age children as to which of the parents the children will live with in the event of divorce.

The Latvian SSR Supreme Court was reminded of the need to further improve its activity with regard to applying marital and family legislation and to eliminate cases where legal processes are underestimated in the matter of strengthening the family and increasing parental responsibility for their children's upbringing.

The plenum heard a report by A.M. Filatov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Court legal collegium for criminal affairs, on the collegium's activity from April 1984 through June 1987 and issued specific instructions with regard to improving the collegium's activity.

The plenum discussed appeals from the chairman of the USSR Supreme Court and the USSR general prosecutor regarding court cases.

A.M. Rekunkov, USSR general prosecutor, and B.V. Kravtsov, USSR justice minister, took part in the plenum's work.

POZNER COMMENTS ON GORBACHEV SPEECH, MEDIA ROLES

LD161830 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 15 Jul 87

[Vladimir Pozner commentary]

[Text] The mass media, as many assess its role in the Soviet Union today, is on the cutting edge of glasnost. Is this indeed the case? Here is a commentary by Vladimir Pozner:

It is hard to exaggerate the role of the mass media in this country today. Many things testify to that, such for example as statistics. Over the past year or so the total circulation of magazines and newspapers in the Soviet Union has increased by 14 million. There is no escaping the fact that people are deeply interested in what the media are saying.

The latest indication of the role played by the media was last week when Mikhail Gorbachev met with a large group representing media leaders, as well as top people in such fields as literature and films. Addressing the role of the media, of journalists, the general secretary underscored the importance of being responsible and working for a common goal. He said, and I quote: I ask you to rise above your emotions and your comforts and your comfortable stereotypes, to rise and reflect about the people, about society. Otherwise we will not have the force to carry forward what has been begun. I've already said, and this view in my opinion unites us, we were and we remain in the same boat, we were and remain on the same side of the barricades, we walked and continue to walk the same road.

These are heady words for a journalist to hear. Why do journalists write, speak, broadcast? What is it that motivates our profession? For some the motivation is egoistic and self-centered. For some the motivation is popularity, a kind of stardom and the goodies that come with it. But for others it is the satisfaction that comes from serving a cause: the people. These are two different kinds of journalism, of course.

There is probably no sense in arguing which is best. To each his own as they say. But the latter is clearly the one Mikhail Gorbachev was alluding to, the one Soviet journalists subscribe to.

If the prime motive of a television network or a newspaper is profit, or even if it is only one of the main motives, then it could arguably be said that the journalist would be hard put to serve his people. There is an inevitable conflict between private wealth and social health, and by health I mean the kind of atmosphere that dedicated journalism can contribute to. To know that what you do counts, that your country and its leadership are looking to you to contribute -- is there a greater prize, a greater source of pride? The answer depends on your standard of values and for Soviets of the journalistic profession the answer is no, that is the ultimate prize, the rationale and reward for being a journalist.

The greater our capacity to speak out, the better we can do our job and that point was made very clear by Mikhail Gorbachev. As he put it, even the most extreme viewpoint has something valuable, something rational, when it is motivated by a concern for the general cause. In the final analysis even your opponent's views are worthy of attention for they focus on your weak points.

Yes, we of the mass media are on the cutting edge of what is happening. We have a tremendous responsibility, a responsibility for speaking the all important fact that our contribution really and truly matters. Who could ask for more!

PUBLIC HALTS POWER STATION BUILDING IN LATVIA

LD091721 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0913 GMT 9 Jul 87

[Text] Riga, 9 July (TASS) -- Galina Kuchina, TASS correspondent, writes:

Construction of a hydroelectric power station on the River Daugava in Latvia (the Baltic area) has been halted by order of the public. Although, many millions have been spent already on its construction by the two neighboring republics Latvia [as received] and Belorussia -- their governments have agreed to review the design.

At a special away session of the scientific council for the biosphere of the USSR Academy of Sciences, which ended in Riga today, the design of the station was subjected to critical revisiion. In particular, scientists have focused attention on the fact that construction of a large water reservoir is envisaged to increase the water head. This means that large areas of fertile land, and forests on the territory of two republics must be flooded. Resettlement of people from these locations would not be without unfavorable social and economic consequences.

Electricity production must be increased but not at any cost. No price can be put, for example, on the unique shore landscape and the vista of ancient towns which are of historical value. The public reckons that not only experts but also broad strata of the population have the right to decide the fate of rivers, forests, towns and villages. It has accused the power workers of contempt for public opinion. They have been recommended to seeking alternatives for electricity production in the area.

Chairing the session, Academician Aleksey Treshnikov noted that the opinion of many thousands of inhabitants of the country has played a decisive role in preventing the degradation of the large Lakes Baykal (Siberia) and Ladozhskoye (northwest of the European part of the USSR), the halting the work on the project to reverse northern rivers to the south. Measures to save the Aralskoye Sea (central Asia) are being examined. Examination of the expediency of construction of hydroelectric power station on the River Katun has started in the press.

TYPHOON "THELMA" HITS MARITIME KRAY REGION

LD170621 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0520 GMT 17 Jul 87

[Excerpts] Vladivostok, 17 Jul (TASS) -- Coastal regions of Maritime Kray have received the first blow of typhoon "Thelma". The monthly norm of precipitation fell here in 24 hours. In Nakhodka the wind reached 30 meters per second and on Gamov Cape it approached 40. [passage omitted]

The situation remains complicated in Olginskiy, Lazovskiy, and Khankayskiy Rayons. Some bridges have been destroyed and telephone links with certain villages have been cut off.

ABALKIN: ECONOMY TO SHIFT TO SERVICE INDUSTRIES

OW111159 Tokyo KYODO in English 0935 GMT 11 Jul 87

[Text] Tokyo, July 11 KYODO -- A Soviet economist said here Saturday Moscow will shift the emphasis in the Soviet economy to service industries through the introduction of high technology in the manufacturing and agricultural sectors.

Leonid Ivanovich Abalkin, head of the Soviet Academy of Science's Institute of Economics, made the prediction in an interview with KYODO news service. He is one of the top aides of Communist Party leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Abalkin said 1.5 million to 20 million surplus workers in agriculture and manufacturing industry will be moved to the service sector by the end of this century. He said family labor will be promoted in agriculture, where a farming-by-contract system will be introduced. Abalkin called the proposed relocation of manpower "liberation from material production."

Introduction of high technology is indispensable to implement the large-scale industrial restructuring, he said. The sevice sector includes the educational, cultural and medical fields and three million workers will be relocated to the "social and public service" sector under the current five-year plan (1986-90), Abalkin said. The program will not pose a threat to job security, he stressed.

Abalkin admitted the family labor system will be a modified version of a similar practice followed in China. Abalkin, who visited China last May, will make another trip to Beijing in October.

MOSCOW INTERVIEWS EXPERT ON PRICE RISES

LD141058 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1430 GMT 13 Jul 87

[Interview with Professor Vladimir Ivanovich Chaplanov, director of the Scientific Research Institute of Price Formation under the USSR State Committee on Prices, by correspondent Aleg Aksenov; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Aksenov] Vladimir Ivanovich, at the CPSU Central Commmittee June Plenum the task for 1988 was to complete the reform of the system of price structure of credit and financial relations. How do you see this reform developing so that it is as painless as possible and as effective as possible?

[Chaplanov] I think that the price system -- and this was correctly noted at the June plenum -- is a key competent of the economic mechanism. The way in which we tackle price reform will have a great influence on the effectiveness of the entire economic mechanism, including what you mentioned -- credit, financing, the efficient utilization of labor resources, of material resources, and so on.

In connection with this, as far as wholesale prices are concerned we believe it is necessary to carry out sweeping measures to guarantee the stimulation of economies in resources, primarily fuel raw materials. For this reason, we propose roughly doubling prices.

Meantime, in engineering we believe we could maintain prices or raise their levels only slightly since a maximum reduction in the material intensity of production will be ensured. Prices should stimulate these steps in terms of resource-saving and, in addition, in terms of an increase in produce quality. The price system should provide conditions by which it would be uneconomical to produce poor engineering goods but it would be economical to manufacture produce on a par with world output.

Now, what about retail prices? Here there are two important tasks that must be tackled. First, it seems to us essential to raise the price of groceries. Today we have an abnormal situation under which the state gives enormous subsidies just to maintain a stable level of retail prices. This level is clearly outdated. It was laid down decades ago. It would be irrational to hang on to it any longer.

[Aksenov] Presumably, if the retail prices of foodstuffs are to be raised, the population must somehow be compensated, so that the standard of living does not drop after the price rise.

[Chaplanov] Yes, of course. In this connection several possibilities for compensation have been worked out. I think these compensation and price rise possibilities need to be discussed widely by our public and not restricted to a narrow circle of academics and specialists and workers in price formation.

[Aksenov] Could you give an example and tell us about one of the options?

[Chaplanov] I think one of the options is compensation based on average consumption of meat, for example. We consume a little more than 60 kg of meat per head. If, on the basis of this norm, we compensate people, then those who consume less than 60 kg -- for example 15-20 kg, and there are such people in the population -- will get compensation which will allow them to buy more products after the introduction of the new price system including meat. While those people in society who consume more than 60 kg will receive relatively less compensation. But they will not lose out because the measures to stimulate the growth in labor productivity will ensure a sufficiently high growth in income so they will not come off the losers from this compensation.

There are several other possibilities. These options are also being examined. For example, when the cost of foodstuffs rises the cost of manufactured goods will come down somewhat where we have reserve today.

[Aksenov] It is no secret to anyone that there is a scissor-like discrepancy between the very low cost of groceries and the very high prices of manufactured goods. I should think this will provide some sort of balance?

[Chaplanov] Yes, we need to try to ensure that all goods today are accessible to our people, and for this to happen there has to be a differentiation in the production of goods. Some goods need to be high quality, but targeted at people with relatively low incomes. Other goods -- the prestige goods -- are targeted at people with high incomes. One could envisage the state collecting a greater profit from these goods, but you are right in saying that this scissor effect which exists today between manufactured goods and groceries must be eliminated.

Here we have the situation whereby if we raise the cost of foodstuffs, then the state will have the chance to reduce the prices of industrial goods where we have a large tax turnover today and where we are obliged to exact it in connection with the fact that it is necessary to (?give a sell-by date) [datirovat] for foodstuffs. [sentence as heard]

[Aksenov] Here it seems possible to me that the role of the Price Committee could be increased. I think at the moment much greater weight in this sphere is carried by various ministries and departments.

[Chaplanov] Even today, of course, the Price Committee has an important say in the process of price-fixing, although you are undoubtedly right in the sense that it is under great pressure from ministries, departments, and other organizations which are trying, with the help of prices, to solve their problems. Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev has spoken abut this on several occasions. I think that in future, of course the role of the Price Committee should increase considerably in the new structure of economic management. The Price Committee should become the scientific-methodological center for the management of the entire system of price-fixing and control over price-fixing.

Today there are several important proposals to step up the control function and to create a state directorate for price control. This would allow many issues to be tackled head on [operativno], such as price changes which have been resolved incorrectly. Moreover, it will be possible to a large extent to punish those who use prices in their own selfish interests, whether departmental or even personal, and make them answer for it.

GOVERNMENT PANEL VIEWS NEW MANAGEMENT REGULATIONS

PM161117 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No. 29, Jul 87 (Signed to press 9 Jul 87) p 24

[Unattributed "Economic News" report: "In the Commission for the Improvement of Management, Planning, and the Economic Mechanism"]

[Text] At its sessions, the Commission for the Improvement of Management, Planning, and the Economic Mechanism set up by a resolution of the USSR Council of Ministers has examined a number of questions concerning the work of enterprises and associations under conditions of full economic accountability [khozyaystvennyy raschet] and self-financing. Approval was given to a list of normative documents linked with the implementation of the USSR Law on the State Enterprise (Association).

The question of the normative correlation between average wage growth and labor productivity growth in annual plans and returns in 1987-1990 was examined. It was determined that associations, enterprises, and organizations in the national economy's production sectors subject to labor remuneration conditions would apply this normative correlation as a cumulative total in their annual plans and reports for 1987-1990 from the beginning of the 5-year plan period and regardless of when the new labor remuneration conditions were introduced. There will be no quarterly monitoring of adherence to the set normative correlation.

In the event of the results of a year's work producing a breach of this correlation, a corresponding proportion of the material incentives fund set up under the normative is either placed in reserve or transferred to the fund for social and cultural measures and housing construction.

The question of using money from the material incentives fund for the payment of wages was examined. [paragraph continues]

Leaders of enterprises, associations, and organizations are authorized, subject to the labor collective's consent, to use money from the material incentives unified fund (fund) for the payment of wages to the extent that the actual wages fund exceeds the fund set up according to normatives and actual results. The amount of such payments is not charged as an overexpenditure on the wages fund and is accounted as part of payments from the material incentives unified fund (fund) rather than from the wages fund.

The session approved a proposal by the USSR Ministry of the Electrical Equipment industry regarding the transfer of the "Kvant" Science and Production Association to full economic accountability and self-financing as of 1 July 1987. Under the new conditions of economic management its activity will be oriented toward considerably reducing the time taken to carry out work throughout the "research-production" cycle, fundamentally improving the technical standards and quality of products, ensuring that they correspond to the best achievements in the world, and making efficient use of all types of resources.

Contracts are the basic documents regulating an association's mutual relations with clients (including ministries and departments) and determining reciprocal responsibilities for meeting commitments undertaken.

It was determined that an association's commodity output includes the results of completed scientific research, experimental design, prototype experiment, and technological work, including scientific and technical services and other types of work. The volume of an association's commodity output and output sales includes the cost of individual stages of work of accordance with the contract's conditions.

The prices for scientific research, experimental design work, prototype production, scientific and technical services, and other types of work are set by the association in coordination with the client prior to the start of work and remain unchanged throughout the period of work set by the contract.

An association has the right, subject to the labor collective's consent, to redistribute part of its money between the fund for the development of production, science, and technology and the social development fund. The total labor remuneration fund (wages fund and material incentives fund) is at the association's disposal to be spent without restrictions, provided it does not exceed the volume of nonfood commodities produced and sold by the association.

The commission approved conditions and regulations for the work of all-union and republic economically accountable foreign trade organizations (associations). These documents set out the organizations of their economic activity under conditions of full economic accountability, including procedures for the formation and expenditure of economic incentives funds. The conditions and regulations for the work of all-union foreign trade organizations (associations) under the jurisdiction of ministries and departments also apply to economically accountable foreign trade firms under the jurisdiction of science and production and production associations, enterprises, and organizations which are legal entities.

ECONOMIST ON REGIONAL EFFECTS OF ECONOMIC REFORM

LD092110 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 9 Jul 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] An economist speaks: Taking part in our program in Aleksandr Grigoriyevich Granberg, Director of the Institute of Economics and Organization of Industrial Production of the USSR Academy of Sciences Siberian section and corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences.

[Granberg] The decisions of the CPSU Central Committee June Plenum and the seventh session of the USSR Supreme Soviet determined the main paths for the radical reform of the management of the national economy. The principal feature of the reform is that the expansion of economic financial autonomy methods of management should be combined with the advantages of the centralized management of the socialist economy.

Let us take, for example, the eastern regions of our country. The switchover of existing enterprises to self-financing requires a preliminary solution to a number of complicated economic and social questions. How, for example, will it be possible to guarantee the workers of these regions higher monetary incomes, taking into account the regional coefficients of wages and northern privileges? Or how will it be possible to provide, from enterprises' own resources, the construction of housing, when one takes into account that here it costs two to three times as much as in already developed regions?

It would seem impossible to find a way out of this situation if we continue to adhere to lowered prices for extracted raw materials, including oil and gas, which are some two or three times lower than world prices.

Alongside the expansion of the sphere of financially autonomous relations, eastern and northern regions of the country need an increased effectiveness in centralized management. This is particularly important in the implementation of such major economic programs as the development of the West Siberian oil and gas complex, the integrated development of the far east, and the Trans baikal region. It is important that these programs should not be limited to tasks set by directives but should also include centralized, and not departmental supply of resources. And not just for the construction of production projects, but also for the creation of all the necessary social infrastructure.

I think that centralized management should play a considerable role in the implementation of new scientific and technological ideas and major areas of scientific and technological progress.

EARLY JULY WEATHER, CROP STATUS REPORTED

PM161301 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN 15 Jul 87 in Russian No 87 p 1

["The Weather and the Crops" by agrometeorologist N. Ignatova.]

[Text] In most parts of the USSR's European territory the average temperature in the first 10-day period of July was near normal. Winter and spring grain crops have begun to ripen in the south. Winter wheat reached the waxy ripeness stage at more or less the usual time in Moldavia, the eastern half of the Ukraine, Krasnodar Kray, Rostov Oblast, and the Lower Volga area and 5-7 days later than usual in the southern Ukraine. In the extreme south of the aforementioned territory spring barley has achieved waxy ripeness. In the case of rye this phase of development has also arrived in the Central Chernozem Region (with the exception of the northern part), in the Volga Region (south of Ulyanovsk), and in southern parts of Orenburg Oblast. On most days the weather favored the harvesting of grain crops. Only in Krasnodar and Stavropol Krays and in southern parts of Rostov Oblast and the Volga Region were there 2-3 days and in places 5 days of torrential rain, delaying the drying out of grain in swaths and as it stands. Over the rest of the USSR's European territory the grain continued to swell and in northern areas the crops have eared and flowered. The continuing heavy rain in the northern half of Belorussia, in Lithuania, in the greater part of the Northwest Region, and in the northern half of the Central Region caused the crops to lodge and to be affected by pests and diseases.

Corn continued to form leaves. In Krasnodar and Stavropol Krays and in the autonomous republics of the North Caucasus vegetative conditions were generally good. Buckwheat continues to flower. In a number of places cold, rainy weather interfered with the activities of flying insects and had an adverse affect on pollination conditions.

Potatoes have begun to flower. In Estonia and in the Northwest and North regions side shoots were forming. Conditions for the formation of tops and for tuber formation and growth were on the whole favorable. But in most parts of the Ukraine, in Belorussia (apart from the north), in southern parts of Lithuania, in most parts of the Central Chernozem region, and in a number of oblasts of the Volga and Ural regions the temperature at tuber-formation depth was too high and in a number of northwestern oblasts of the European part of the USSR the ground was too wet, which was having an adverse effect on tuber information and growth. Vegetable and fruit and berry crops are growing and developing. Fruits are getting bigger on the apple trees.

In the farming zone of West Siberia the average temperature was 1-3 degrees above normal. There was a decent amount of rain (15-40 mm) in most parts. In southern parts of Omsk and Tomsk Oblasts winter rye reached waxy ripeness 10-15 days earlier than usual. With the abatement of the heat and the arrival of rain in northern oblasts of Kazakhstan and in a number of southern parts in Tyumen and Omsk Oblasts there was an improvement in agrometeorological conditions for the growth and development of early spring grain crops.

In most of Central Asia and Kazakhstan cotton was continuing to form bolls in satisfactory weather conditions. It was flowering mainly in fields sown before 15-20 April. Farms are harvesting tomatoes and cucumbers, as well as cherries, apricots, and summer varieties of apples and peaches.

The weather remained cold in East Siberia and the Transbaikal region and colder weather came to the Far East. [paragraph continues]

The prolonged lack of warmth has put back the development of early spring grain crops by 6-12 days in most parts of the East Siberian farming zone. Only in southern parts of the Transbaikal zone were the plant earing. Grasses and legumes were flowering and the harvesting and postharvest growth of these continued.

AVAKUMOV REPORTS ON FEED HARVEST PROGRESS

PM161155 Mocsow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Jul 87 Morning Edition p 1

["Agricultural Review": "In the Feed Crop Fields" by I. Avakumov]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] It is not enough to just procure high quality feeds, they must also be stored. But while almost the entire stock of hay on farms in, for example, Estonia and Latvia is under cover, the corresponding proportion is less than 10 percent in Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, and Armenia, just 19 percent in the RSFSR and 34 percent in the Ukraine. If one could speak of records in this context, the record is held by Altay Kray -- people there have managed to protect only about 2 percent of hay from rain and snow. The cost of formalism in this important work is rather high. According to data issued by the USSR State Agro-Industrial Committee , the loss of feed nutrient values resulting from bad storage during the wintering period of the 5-year plan's first year amounted to about 5 million tonnes of feed units, which is equivalent to the same quantity of grain.

Last week, the situation in meadows improved noticeably in the country as a whole. Many oblasts and republics stepped up the pace of harvesting. A few days ago the heat wave in the Volga Valley region created fears, but the subsequent rainfall refreshed the fields and pastures. Concern is caused only in some rayons in Georgia and Armenia where the grasses have become completely scorched. They have been promised help by crop farmers from Orel, Lipetsk, and several other oblasts. Such support is, of course, justified and understandable. But today's criteria make it impossible to either understand or justify the situation when farms have perfect grass and yet their work is still not progressing.

MEDIA REPORTS 9-11 JULY AGRICULTURAL WORK

LD120202 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated, on 9-11 July. GMT times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

10 July

In Yakutiya, hay-making is beginning later than usual because of the late spring. It is planned to bring in around 600,000 metric tons of hay and more than 230,000 metric tons of silage in just 2 months. Work is being done by team and family contracting in various rayons, but work is clearly behind schedule in Ordzhonikidzevskiy, Churapchinskiy, Medino-Kangalasskiy, and other rayons. (0000)

In Kazakhstan the winter grain harvesting front is moving further and further north. Following on from Chimkent and Dzhambul machine operators, those in Alma-Ata Oblast started harvesting today, and they have to gather grain crops from 390,000 hectares. Grain will go to elevators only after cleaning, drying, and laboratory checks for quality.

This year many of the country's kolkhozes and sovkhozes will be able to harvest feed beets witout manual work. This work will be taken on by (MKK-6) machines, the first batch of which was dispatched today to beet growers by the collectiv of the production association of the Dnepropetrovsk combine works named after Voroshilov. As a result of significantly speeded up rates of harvesting, the well-cleaned root crops do not require additional work. After the combine, the harvest can be laid in for prolonged storage. By the end of this year 1,600 such combines will be produced. Their manufacture will be carried out according to beet growers' requests. (1100)

11 July

Feed stocking is proceeding space in Kirghizia, where the leading kolkhoz and sovkhoz are obtaining up to 30 quintals of hay per hectare. Around 2 million metric tons of coarse feed, almost half of the planned commitment, have already been collected. (0000)

In Kazakhstan five southern oblasts have harvested grain from 500,000 hectares. (0800)

Grain has been harvested from four-fifths of the sown area in Uzbekistan. The machine operators of Syrdarya Oblast have completed cutting today, whereas in Dzhizak oblast, where more than 120,000 hectares are sown to cereal crops, the harvesting of the crops has been inexcusably dragged out. According to the statistical directory, a quarter of the combines are stationary there. Dragging out the harvesting is leading to the overripening of the crops and loss of grain." (1100)

The Crimea has started the grain harvest. (1500)

Farm workers being the Don harvest bear special responsibility this year given that barley, wheat, peas, and rye have been battened to the soil following rains. (1800)

COSMOS-1869 LAUNCHED 16 JULY: PARAMETERS GIVEN

PM161545 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Jul 87 Morning Edition p 2

[TASS Announcement: 'Cosmos-1869' in Flight" -- IZVESTIYA headline]

[Text] The "Cosmos-1869" artificial Earth satellite was launched in the Soviet Union 16 July 1987.

The main task of the satellite is to obtain prompt oceanographic data in the interests of various sectors of the USSR national economy and international cooperation.

The satellite is in orbit with the following parameters:

maximum distance from the Earth's surface (apogee) -- 679 km;
minimum distance from the Earth's surface (perigee) -- 647 km;
orbital inclination -- 82.5 degrees;
initial period of orbit -- 97.8 degrees;

The satellite is equipped with packages of scanning optical-mechanical and radiophysical apparatus.

Data from the satellite is received from processing and dissemination by the State Scientific Research Center for the Study of Natural Resources and by autonomous data reception stations of the State Committee for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Control.